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JACOB SCHANTZ SHIMER, M. D.



HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

OF THE

# SHIMER FAMILY

IN AMERICA

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By ALLEN R. SHIMER

Vol. II, 1914

PRESS OF BERKEMEYER, KECK & CO  
ALLENTOWN, PA

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THIS VOLUME  
IS DEDICATED TO THE  
MEMORY OF  
JACOB SCHANTZ SHIMER, M. D.  
THE PIONEER  
IN GATHERING THE DATA FOR THE  
HISTORY AND GENEALOGY  
OF THE  
SHIMER FAMILY.



## PREFACE.

AS a loving tribute to the memory of Jacob S. Shimer, M. D., we dedicate this volume in recognition of the work he did in gathering data of the descendants of Jacob Scheimer, 1st, one of the ancestors of the Shimer Family in America.

Ten years after the death of Dr. Jacob S. Shimer, his son, William S. Shimer, M. D., of Philadelphia, Pa., entered into an agreement with the Shimer Family Reunion Association, through its President, by which the manuscript was turned over to the society. Much of this material has been included in this volume and thus the "labor of love" on the part of Jacob S. Shimer, M. D., has not been lost.

This second volume, with the exception of the sketch on the life of Doctor Shimer, written by his son, William S. Shimer, M. D., will deal principally with the third generation of the descendants of Jacob Shimer, 1st, and a genealogy in tabulated form of the descendants of Michael Shimer, who came to America in 1749, and Samuel Shimer, son of Jacob, 1st, of whom we had no record when the first volume was issued.

The work continues to be both fascinating and interesting. New discoveries are being made continually. It was fortunate that we did not attempt to have the work completed in the one volume of 1908, as much would have been lost.

Again I am indebted to the Shimers as a whole for their assistance in gathering data for this work. To Joseph P. Shimer, of Allentown, Pa., I am especially indebted for the interest he has taken in the work and his assistance particularly in taking photographs of old homesteads, tombstones, etc.

ALLEN R. SHIMER,  
Bethlehem, Pa.



## PETER SHIMER.

PETER SHIMER, first son of Jacob and Rosina (Scip) Shimer, grandson of Jacob, 1st, was born in the old homestead at Shimerton, now Redington, Pa., on January 20th, 1760. (Shimer History, Vol. I, page 26, first line and on the inserted page, third generation.) The record which is on the fly leaf of the old German Family Bible reads as follows:

"Peter Shimer the son of Jacob and Rosina his wife was born the 20th day of January in the year of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred and sixty (1760)."

The old book has a wooden cover, brass corners and large clasps. It is 16 x 11 and 5 inches thick. It has been in the Shimer family for over one hundred years. On the same leaf is found the entry of the death of Peter's mother, Rosina, which reads as follows:

"Rosina Shimer ended her life the fourteenth day of August, 1822, at five o'clock in the morning. She brought her age to 85 years."

Peter Shimer was twice married, first to Anna Maria Lerch, daughter of Anthony Lerch; issue one son, John Lerch Shimer, born January 15th, 1782, died August 12th, 1854. Peter Shimer's first wife died prior to 1786. His second wife was the widow of Philip Lerch, who died in 1783. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Kratzer. She was born June 29th, 1754, died May 13th, 1837; issue two sons and five daughters.

ABRAHAM, born February 7th, 1785; married Margaret Leidy, April 8th, 1810; died March 10th, 1859.

SAMUEL, born November 14th, 1796; married Susana Heinbach; died January 18th, 1867.

MARIA, born May 26th, 1787; married Jacob Knecht, 1812; died June 2nd, 1864.

SUSANNA, born October 19th, 1789; married John Riehl, November 20th, 1808; died March 9th, 1836.

ELIZABETH, born May 12th, 1791; married Samuel Leidy; died May 15th, 1853.

ANNA, born April 29th, 1794; married Tobias Weaver, March 20th, 1812; died July 6th, 1857.

ROSINA, born May 13th, 1800; married Joseph Weber, 1817; died February 23rd, 1873.

Peter Shimer resided near what is now known as Redington, Northampton County, Pa., where all his children were born. For his first born, John, he purchased a farm in Greenwich Township, five miles from Easton, Pa., near Still Valley, Warren County, N. J. The farm containing two hundred acres, with modern improvements, was bought for twenty-six hundred dollars (\$2600). John

Shimer settled on this farm soon after he was married and by industry and thrift accumulated a large fortune. He and his six sons became the owners of six farms in the vicinity, four of which adjoined each other.

Peter Shimer died October 22nd, 1828. His body lies buried in the private burying plot at the upper end of the orchard on the old Shimer farm. (Shimer History, Vol. I, page 29.)

The inscription on the tombstone (upright stone) reads as follows:

Hier ruhen  
die gebeine von  
PETER SCHEIMER  
Er erblickte das Licht  
dieser Welt den 13ten  
January 1758  
und starb den 22ten  
October 1828  
in einem alter  
von 70 Jahren 9 Monaten  
und 9 Tagen.  
Sanft ruhe seine entseelte  
Huelle bis Jesu ruf sie wecke  
zum ewigen Leben.

NOTE: The old family Bible records his birth as of January 20th, 1760, while the tombstone reads January 13th, 1758.

The will of Peter Scheimer, a copy of which follows, is a noteworthy document, reflecting as it does, not only the spirit of the times, but also in marked fashion the spirit of thoughtfulness. Even the most cursory perusal of his will and testament forces the conviction that Peter Scheimer possessed integrity of character and good judgment; that he was a man of standing and repute in his community; that he gave close attention to details affecting the welfare of his family; in short, that he was a good man.

<p>LAST WILL &amp;C. OF PETER SHIMER dec'd PROVEN NOV. 3. 1828</p>	<p>} <i>In the Name of God Amen.</i> I Peter Shimer of Lower Saucon Township in the County of Northampton and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Yeoman being con- siderably advanced in Years but still in full enjoyment of</p>
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a Sound and disposing mind memory and understanding Do make and Publish this my last Will and Testament in manner following to wit: Principally and first of all I commend my immortal soul into the hands of God who gave it and my body to the Earth to be buried in our Family burial Grounds in a decent and Christian like manner at the discretion of my Executors herein after named. And as to such worldly estate wherewith it Hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give and dispose of the same in the following manner to wit I give and devise unto my loving Wife Elizabeth during her natural life the new dwelling House wherein I now live and the Garden thereunto belonging, with all the Privileges in and about the Premises that may be requisite to render her situation comfortable and easy, which said Garden is to be manured and kept in good order and repair by my son John (or whoever owns my Plantation) together with the right liberty and privilege to take use and enjoy as many Apples Pears Cherries and Other fruit as she may want from the Plantation hereinafter devised to my said son John I also give and bequeath to my loving Wife Elizabeth the sum of fifty Dollars, lawful money of Pennsylvania to be paid to her immediately after my decease and as much food



and Other Articles of nourishment and sustenance as she may want for her own use for the term of six months after my decease Also all my Household and Kitchen furniture or so much thereof as she shall choose or select and one Cow the choice of my Stock which said Cow shall be well kept fed and pastured by my said son John his Heirs or assigns who shall also furnish her with a good Horse whenever she shall require it. I also order and direct my son John his Heirs and assigns to deliver Yearly and every Year to my said Wife Elizabeth during her natural life, Two Hundred weight of good fat Corn fed Pork, Twelve Bushels of Rye and Twelve Bushels of Wheat, the Rye and Wheat he shall take to the Mill and when Ground deliver the Flour and Bran thereof in her House and also to deliver to her House a Sufficient quantity of Fire Wood Cut and Split ready for the Stove and such other purposes as she may direct free of Charge or Expense. I also give and bequeath unto my said Wife Elizabeth the sum of seventy two dollars lawful money of Pennsylvania Yearly during her life time as an annuity which shall be paid to her in Semi anual instalments the first payment to be made to her in six Calender Month after my decease and so Every six month thereafter, during the Term aforesaid for which Purpose the sum of Twelve Hundred Dollars shall remain a lien on the Plantation herein after devised to my son John and in case the said interest should at any time be found inadequate to supply her wants my Executors hereinafter named are hereby empowered to add thereto such part of the Principal sum as may make up the deficiency and after her decease the said Twelve Hundred Dollars or so much thereof as may be then remaining shall be equally divided among my seven Children to wit my sons John and Abraham and my daughters Maria Susanna Elizabeth Anna and Rosina or their legal representatives share and share alike. And whereas I have already made ample provision for my son Abraham and in part for my sons John and Samuel having Conveyed to John and Abraham each a Valuable Farm upon very moderate terms and furnished them with Horses Cattle Waggon and Farming utensils generally & having advanced my son Samuel at various times with large sums of money so that my son Samuel can not expect any part of the residue of my Estate and my sons John and Abraham can not expect an equal Portion with the rest of my Children in the final distribution of my remaining property—I give and devise unto my son John his heirs and assigns my Plantation or Farm in Lower Saucon Township aforesaid including the House and Garden herein before devised to my Wife Elizabeth during her natural life and the House and Lot of Ground hereinafter devised to him in Trust for the use of my son Samuel during his life time, Containing one Hundred and twenty nine acres and One Hundred and forty three Perches and the usual allowance be it more or less and Consisting of three Contiguous Tracts conveyed to me by Deed from Edward Shimer and Wife dated the 15 day of May A. D. 1788 and of a small piece Conveyed to me by Benedict Lutz and Wife by Deed dated the 14th of January 1790 both recorded in the Office for recording Deeds at Easton in Book H Vol I Page 171 and 173 respectively together with all the Buildings thereon erected and being and Other the appurtenances thereunto belonging to Hold the same to him his Heirs and Assigns forever. Subject nevertheless to the payment of Seven thousand five Hundred Dollars lawful Money of Pennsylvania in the manner hereinafter directed and to the performance of All that is herein before or hereinafter required of him for and on account of my son Samuel, and for and on account of my beloved Wife Elizabeth. The above mentioned seven thousand five Hundred Dollars shall be paid as follows to wit twelve Hundred Dollars to remain as the sum from which my beloved wife Elizabeth is to receive her annuity as herein before mentioned and the remaining five thousand eight Hundred Dollars shall be paid as follows to wit five thousand Dollars lawful Money of Pennsylvania shall be paid to my Executors one Year after my decease, and the remaining eight Hundred

Dollars shall be paid One Year after the decease of my Wife Elizabeth without Interest. And Whereas it is my earnest desire to make some provision for my son Samuel, so that he may not become destitute of necessary food raiment Washing and lodging in any event whatever. It is my will that the Stone House and Stable and four acres of Land part of the Plantation herein before devised to my son John the line to be run from the Creek up the middle of a private road to the line of Michael Lutz and Land, including the Orchard Wood Land and meadow thereon be held by my son John his Heirs or assigns during the life time of my son Samuel in Trust that my son Samuel to use Occupy improve and enjoy the same as long as he shall live Provided Nevertheless that he shall have no power to Sell or Convey the same or to dispose of the produce thereof, but the benefit and use thereof shall be preserved by my son John his Heirs or assigns to aid in supporting my son Samuel and to Supply him with necessary food raiment Washing and lodging during his natural life (and after the decease of my son Samuel the said House Stable and four Acres of Ground with the Appurtenances shall belong to my son John his Heirs and Assigns or the owner of my Plantation forever.) And further it is my will and I do Order and direct that five Hundred Dollars of the Money to be paid by my son John on the Plantation devised to him shall remain a Charge upon the same and the Interest thereof shall be held by my son John his Heirs and Assigns in Trust for the benefit of my son Samuel, therewith and thereby to procure for him as far as it will reach, necessary food raiment Washing and lodging, but in case my son Samuel should get sick helpless or some unforeseen accident should occur so that the interest of the said Sum of five Hundred Dollars together with the produce or proceeds of the House and Stable and four Acres of Ground aforesaid should not in the Opinions of my Executors hereinafter named be Sufficient for the purposes aforesaid then and in such case my son John his heirs or assigns, Trustees as aforesaid shall apply so much of the Principal sum of the said five Hundred Dollars as shall be requisite and necessary for the Purposes aforesaid. And after the decease of my son Samuel the five Hundred Dollars in the hands of my son John in Trust for my son Samuel as aforesaid or so much thereof as shall remain, shall be divided among his three Children to wit, Sarah Ann Shimer David Shimer and Peter Shimer or their legal representatives share and share alike. It is further my Will that no Demand shall be made of my son Samuel for or on account of any debts or demands which shall remain charged against him upon my Books at the time of my decease and that there shall be no deduction from the provision herein before made for his maintenance and Support by reason of any debts or Demands which I may have against him at the time of my decease. And further it is my Will and I order and direct that my son John his Heirs or assigns Trustees of my son Samuel as aforesaid shall receive out of my estate the sum of Twenty Dollars Yearly and every Year for the trouble and expense he or they shall be put to in providing for my son Samuel as aforesaid and delivering the articles &c. to my beloved wife Elizabeth during their natural lives or the life of the survivor of them and no longer. And in Case my son John will not accept of or take my plantation or Farm herein before devised to him on the Conditions aforesaid, then and in such case I give and devise the same unto my son Abraham to hold the same to him his Heirs and Assigns forever Subject nevertheless to the exceptions aforesaid the delivery of All and every of the articles herein before given to my wife Elizabeth the payment of the same sum of Money thereto. And on the same Conditions as hereinbefore mentioned and all and every thing which is to be done kept and performed by my son John his Heirs or assigns if he takes the same shall be done kept and performed by my son Abraham his Heirs or assigns. I give and devise unto my said son John his Heirs and assigns my One third of the Family Burial Ground belonging to Isaac Shimer and Anthony Oberly and myself in Trust for the use of the Heirs

of my Family, and their descendants, which is to be kept in repair at the Costs and Expenses of those members of my Family who use the same as such But in case my son John does not accept of or take my Plantation as aforesaid and my son Abraham takes the same then and in such case I also give and devise to my said Son Abraham the One third of the Family Burial Ground aforesaid To Hold the same to him his Heirs and assigns as aforesaid. Item I give and Bequeath unto my son John or his Heirs the sum of One Hundred and fifty Dollars lawful Money of Pennsylvania. I give and bequeath unto my Son Samuel or his Heirs the Desk which he owned a Bed & Bedstead an English Bible in four Volumes, Walkers Dictionary and a German Testament and Hymn Book. I give and bequeath to my daughter Maria intermarried with Jacob Knecht or to her legal representatives the sum of One thousand Dollars lawfull Money of Pennsylvania I give and bequeath to my Daughter Susanna intermarried to John Riel or to her Heirs the sum of One thousand Dollars lawfull Money of Pennsylvania. I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth intermarried with Samuel Leidy or to her Heirs the sum of One Thousand Dollars lawfull money of Pennsylvania. I give and bequeath to my Daughter Anna intermarried to Tobias Weaver or to her Heirs the sum of One thousand Dollars lawfull money of Pennsylvania. I give and bequeath to my Daughter Rosina intermarried with Joseph Weaver or to her Heirs the sum of One thousand Dollars lawfull money of Pennsylvania. And Whereas Elizabeth Stamm who lived with me for some time back hath always been obedient and Obliging to myself and my Wife, and her conduct towards us has been such that she deserved some extra Compensation therefore if the said Elizabeth Stamm shall remain with and Continue in the service of my beloved Wife Elizabeth for the term of one Year after my decease then and in such case I give and bequeath to the said Elizabeth Stamm or her Heirs the sum of Twenty Dollars lawful money of Pennsylvania It is further my will that no Demand shall be made of my sons John and Abraham for or on Account of any Book Debts which shall remain charged against them upon my Books at the time of my decease. And further it is my will that the Book Debts which shall remain a charge against my Daughters at the time of my decease shall be Considered as advancements made to them respectively but no interest to be charged thereon and in the final distribution of the residue of my Estate hereinafter devised and bequeathed to them the same shall be apportioned amongst them that they may all be made equal taking in Accounts their respective Book Debts without calculating any interest on the said Book Debts as aforesaid. And as touching all the rest residue and remainder of my Estate (not herein before bequeathed) of what kind and nature soever the same may be I give and devise the same unto my seven Children to wit: to my sons John and Abraham and to my daughters Maria, Susanna, Elizabeth, Anna, and Rosina, and to their Heirs and Assigns forever to be equally divided amongst them share and share alike. And lastly I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint my son John and my sons in law Samuel Leidy and Joseph Weaver to be the Executors of this my last Will and Testament and do hereby give and bequeath to each of them the sum of Twenty five Pounds lawful Money of Pennsylvania in lieu of Commissions usually charged upon such occasions and in full compensation for their services in the Execution of the said Trust but the aforesaid appointment is not to be construed as exonerating either of them from the payment of debts if any they should owe to me at the time of my decease. And I do hereby revoke all other wills legacies devices and bequests by me heretofore made, declaring this and no other to be my last Will and Testament.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the nineteenth day of September in the Year of Our Lord one thousand eight Hundred and twenty eight.

PETER SHIMER [SEAL]

## JOHN SHIMER.

**J**ACOB AND ROSINA (SEIP) SHIMER had three sons, Peter, Samuel and John. John Shimer, grandson of Jacob, 1st, was born in Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County, Pa. The following record is found on the fly leaf of the old German Family Bible:

"John Shimer son of Jacob Shimer and Rosina his wife was born the fourth day of April in the year of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred and sixty four (1764)."

John Shimer bound himself, by articles of Indenture, dated February 13th, 1781, as apprentice, to Jacob Bittenbender, Upper Saucon Township, Northampton County, wheelwright, to learn his trade for a full term of three years. Besides providing for him generally, Bittenbender had to give him, at the termination of his apprenticeship, a complete suit of clothing and nine pounds hard cash, at 7s. 6d. per Spanish milled dollar. He was only six years old when his father died, and the learning of a trade was in accordance with the old German custom.

In the Pennsylvania Archives, 3rd Series, Vol. XIX, page 300, we find recorded that John Shimer, single, freeman, of Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County, Pa., paid in 1788 a Federal tax of 10 pounds.

The following document in the possession of the descendants of John Shimer is very highly valued by them; it reads as follows:

In the NAME and by the AUTHORITY of the FREEMEN of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

THE SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
of the said Commonwealth.

To John Shymer, Gentleman:—

We, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity, DO, by these Presents, constitute and appoint YOU to be Cornet of a Troop of Militia Light Horse in and for the County of Northampton—You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of Cornet by doing and performing all manner of Things thereunto belonging. And WE DO strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under your command, to be obedient to your Orders as—CORNET—And you are to observe and follow such orders and Directions as you shall, from Time to Time, receive from the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth, or from your superior Officers, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, and in pursuance of the Acts of Assembly of this State. This Commission to continue in Force until your Term, by the laws of this State, shall of course expire.

GIVEN in Council, under the Hand of the—Vice—President, and the lesser Seal of the State, at Philadelphia, this first day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

Attest, JAMES TRIMBLE,  
for Charles Biddle, Sec'y.

A cornet was an officer of cavalry who carried the ensign or colors of a troop. He was the third officer in the company.

About 1790 John Shimer married Salome, daughter of Rev. Jacob Van Buskirk, a Lutheran clergyman. She was born December 6th, 1771. Died October 7th, 1844.

In the year 1792 John Shimer purchased from Jacob Miller over 250 acres of land, the premises on which the present village of Shimerville, Lehigh County, is located. Following is a copy of the deed:

#### DEED OF JACOB MILLER & UX TO JOHN SHOIMER FOR 178 ACRES 13 PERCHES IN UPPER MILFORD TOWNSHIP, 1792.

This Indenture made the twenty-second day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two and in the American Independence the Sixteenth, BETWEEN—Jacob Miller of Upper Milford Township in the county of Northampton and commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Inn holder, and Barbara his wife of the one part; AND John Shoimer of Lower Saucon Township in said county & commonwealth aforesaid of the other part, WITNESSETH that the said Jacob Miller & Barbara his wife for and in consideration of the sum of Sixteen Hundred pounds in specie to them in hand well & truly paid by the said John Shoimer, at and before the ensealing & delivering of these presents, the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge and thereof acquit forever discharge the said John Shoimer, his heirs, executors, and assigns by these presents have granted, bargained, sold released and confirmed and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell release and confirm to unto the said John Shoimer and to his heirs and assigns all that certain message and tract piece or parcel of land, situated, lying and being in the said upper Milford Township, BEGINNING at a post, a corner in a line of now, or late John Hystands land thence by the same north west thirty nine perches to a stone, north east fourteen perches to a stone and north thirty one degrees, west eighty-two perches and a half to a stone corner in the line of late Nicholas Kooken, now George Hammans land, thence by the same north east one hundred and eight perches and a half to a stone a corner of John Wetzels land, thence by the same south east, eighty-four perches and a half to a stone, and north east one hundred and forty-two perches and a half to a stone corner in a line of Philip Derringers land, thence partly by the same and Mathias Kerns, south east eighty-four and a half perches to a stone, thence by said Kerns and land of Stophel & William Mohr and Adam Kehl, south west two hundred and five perches, to a small Chestnut Oak, thence by the land already conveyed by the said Jacob Miller unto Simon Kehl, northwest, fifty perches to a dry Black Oak, and southwest, eighty perches to the place of beginning, containing one hundred and seventy-eight acres and thirteen perches of land and the customary allowance of 6% for roads, &c. it being part of a certain two hundred and fifty acres which are a part of about 352 acres and allowance, which by Patent on record in Patent Book Vol. 7 page 472, etc. of the 20th day Jan. A. D. 1735 was granted and confirmed unto Dirick Johnson in fee, under the yearly quit-rent of one half penny sterling on every acre of the same. And this said Dirick Johnson having in his life time sold and conveyed 100 acres thereof. Did by the name of Dirk Jansen in and by his last will and testament dated the eleventh day of January A. D. 1755 by the words following, viz:—and also at that 250 acres tract of land called the Indian land at the head of Perkiomy, Northampton County, with the appurtenances and etc. inter alia Devise the said 250 acres (as the said testators remaining part of the said 352 acres tract and whereof the herein granted premises being part) unto his son John Johnson in fee

simple, as in and by the said recited Will, duly proved and registered as the law directs and by the said recited Patent on record aforesaid at large doth appear. And the said John Johnson with Agnis his wife by their indenture on record in the office at Easton for the recording of deeds, etc. in Book C. Vol. 1—page 232 etc. bearing date May 27th A. D. 1774, for the consideration therein mentioned did grant and confirm 213 (alias 201 acres, 108 Perches) and allowance as part of the same (where of the above described being part) unto the said Jacob Miller (party hereto) in fee. Under the proportionable part of the yearly quit rent as aforesaid TOGETHER with all and singular the buildings and improvements, ways-woods-waters-watercourses-rights-liberties-priviledges-hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining and reversions and remainders rents, issues and profits thereof; and all the estate, right, title, interest, use possession, property, claim and demand whatsoever of them the said Jacob Miller and Barbara his wife of, in and to the same and every part or parcel thereof, To HAVE AND TO HOLD the said described tract of one hundred and seventy eight acres, thirteen perches of land and the allowance as aforesaid hereditaments and premisses hereby granted or mentioned or intended so to be with the appurtenances unto the said John Shoimer his heirs and assignes. To the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the said John Shoimer his heirs and assignes in fee forever. UNDER such quit rents that lawfully shall or may be payable for the same to the chief lord or lords of the fee thereof. AND the said Jacob Miller for himself and his heirs, executors and administrators doth hereby grant that he and they the hereby granted tract of land hereditaments and premisses with the appurtenances unto the said John Shoimer his heirs and assignes against him the said Jacob Miller and the said Barbara his wife and against all and every other person or persons whatsoever lawfully claiming or to claim by from or under him, them or any of them, shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents. IN WITNESS whereof the said parties to these presents have interchangeably set their hands and seals here unto dated the day and year first above written.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us.

JOSEPH HORNFIELD,  
JACOB VAN BUSKIRK.

JACOB MILLER [SEAL]  
BARBARA MILLER [SEAL]

Received on the day of the date of the above written indenture of the above named John Shoimer the sum of sixteen hundred pounds in specie, it being the full consideration monies above mentioned paid to me for the above bargained premises. I say received in full by me.

Witnesses present at signing

JOSEPH HORNFIELD,  
JACOB VAN BUSKIRK.

JACOB MILLER.

Entered in the Office for recording of the Deeds at Easton in and for the County of Northampton in Book A Vol. 2d page 24 etc. the second day of April in the year of our Lord 1792.

Witness my hand and seal of said Office.

JOHN ARNDT-Recorder



Homestead of John Shimer, Shimerville, Lehigh County, Pa.  
Situated on the "King's Highway."

In Lehigh County the name is spelled Shimerville, while in Northampton County it is spelled Shimersville. Old parchment Deeds in possession of Llewellyn S. Shimer give the following record of the land: August 22nd, 1733, John, Thomas and Richard Penn, sold to Dirick Johnson 352 acres of land situated on a branch of the Perkiomen Creek in Bucks County for 46 pounds, 16 shillings, lawful money of Pennsylvania, which was equal to \$124.66 of our present currency. In addition to this Johnson was to pay them quit rent of one-half pound sterling per acre. (Philadelphia Office of Deeds, Pat. Book A, Vol. VII, page 472.) Dirick Johnson had a son, John Johnson, to whom in 1755 he willed 250 acres of this original plot which was called in the will "The Indian land at the head of the Perkiomen." In 1774 John Johnson sells 213 acres of this plot to Jacob Miller, Inn Keeper, of Upper Milford Township, Bucks County, for 900 pounds (\$2400). (Easton, Pa., Office of Recording of Deeds, Book C, Vol. I, page 232.) March 22nd, 1792, Jacob Miller sells to John Shimer, of Lower Saucon Township, 178 acres and 13 perches for 1600 pounds (\$4266.66) and quit rent. (Easton, Pa., Office of Recording of Deeds, Book A, Vol. II, page 24.) This is the land called Shimerville, in Lehigh County, Pa. Today (1914) Llewellyn S. Shimer, the youngest and only living grandchild of John Shimer, still lives here.

John Shimer became a successful farmer and landlord. On January 23rd, 1795, he was appointed a Justice of the Peace of the old township of Upper Milford. He held the office for over thirteen years. He died July 18th, 1844, reaching the ripe old age of 80 years. On his tombstone in Zionsville Lutheran Church Cemetery, Lehigh County, Pa., the record is that he was born April 28th, but in the old Family Bible it is recorded that he was born April 4th, 1764.



Graves of John Shimer and his wife, Salome (Van Buskirk) Shimer, Old Zionsville church yard, Zionsville, Lehigh County, Pa.

John and Salome Shimer had seven children, five sons and two daughters, Nathan, Jacob, John, Charles, August, Mary and Elizabeth.

NATHAN, born August 23rd, 1793, died April 1st, 1812; single.

JACOB, born October 30th, 1795, married Mary Mohr, 1821; moved west and settled at Lockport, Niagara County, N. Y. He died January 22nd, 1882.

JOHN, born March 7th, 1801, married first, Lydia Bortz Schantz, who died December 19th, 1850. His second wife was Mrs. John Ritter (nee Mary Ann Wint). (No issue with second wife.) He settled at Shimerville near the old homestead. He died November 21st, 1880.

CHARLES, born June 27th, 1802; married Anna Bortz Schantz, 1827. He remained on the old homestead. Died August 24th, 1880.

AUGUST, born June 27th, 1810; married Elizabeth Leidy Shimer, daughter of Abraham and Margaret Leidy Shimer, 1832. He established his home in Bethlehem Township, Northampton County, Pa. He died March 17th, 1881.

MARY, born April 1st, 1791; married Jacob Grim and settled in Upper Saucon Township near Friedensville, Lehigh County, Pa. She died July 13th, 1869.

ELIZABETH, born March 25th, 1797; married Jacob Apple, 1818, and settled in Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County, Pa. She died January 7th, 1835.



## JACOB SHIMER.

**J**ACOB SHIMER, eldest son of Edward and Rosina Shimer, and grandson of Jacob Scheimer, 1st, was born at Shimerton, now Redington, Northampton County, Pa. The old family Bible contains the following record:

"Jacob Shimer son of Edward Shimer and his wife Rosina was born the first day of January in the year of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred and sixty seven (1767) at four o'clock in the afternoon."

June 18, 1787, Edward Shimer, father of Jacob, bought of David Beidelman a tract of 141 acres and 94 perches, situated on the north bank of the Lehigh River in Bethlehem Township nearly opposite his farm which was on the south bank of the river. The land in that part of Bethlehem Township in which the farm was located was known as "The Barrens" or "The Dry Lands," because it was thought to be so irreclaimably arid and barren that it would never be fit for human habitation. Today, however, it is considered among the best land of the country, and the farm is still in the possession of the Shimer family.

It might be interesting to know that on June 1st, 1737, Thomas and Richard Penn sold 500 acres of land situated on the west branch of the river Delaware, then in the County of Bucks, now in the County of Northampton, to Thomas Groeine. He in turn, in 1749, sold the 500 acres to Charles Stedman, who sold 250 acres of it to Leonard Beitelman in 1767. In 1783 Leonard Beitelman sold the 250 acres to David Beidelman and in 1787, June 18th, David Beidelman sold 141 acres and 94 perches of this plot to Edward Shimer for 720 pounds (\$1920).

Following is a copy of the deed which, by the way, was witnessed by John Beyl, father of the young lady whom Jacob afterward married:

### DEED OF DAVID BEIDELMAN TO EDWARD SHEIMER.

This indenture made the eighteenth day of June in the year of our Lord, 1787. BETWEEN David Beidelman of Lower Saucon Township in the County of Northampton and State of Pennsylvania, Yeoman, and Margaret, his wife of the one part and Edward Sheimer of the same place, Yeoman, of the other part WHEREAS in their certain indenture bearing date the eleventh day of December in the year of our Lord, 1767, made or mentioned to be made between Charles Stedman of the City of Philadelphia, merchant, and Margaret, his wife of the one part and Leonhard Beitelman of the other part recited as is there recited. Witnesseth that he the said Charles Stedman and Margaret his wife for the consideration therein mentioned did grant, bargain, sell and release and confirm unto the said Leonhard Beitelman and to his heirs and assigns the said tract of land situated in Bethlehem Township in the County aforesaid bounding upon the West branch of the Delaware by metes and bounds in the said indenture, particularly set forth and described. Containing 250 acres and other allowance of six perches, roads etc. TOGETHER with the appurtenances to hold to him the said Leonhard Beitelman his heirs and assigns forever, under the yearly quit rent of one shilling sterling for about 100

acres thereof as in and by the said indenture recorded at Easton in the office for the recording of deeds in and for the County of Northampton in Book B. Vol. 1 Page 188 &c. Relation thereunto more fully at large appears. AND THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH FURTHER, That the said Leonhard Beidelman and Ann his wife by their indenture bearing date the fifteenth day of May in the year 1783 for the consideration therein mentioned did grant, bargain, sell, release and confirm unto David Beidelman his heirs and assigns the said parcel, piece or tract of land. Being part of the above said tract of land beginning at a stone set for a corner of the above said Charles Stedman other land and from thence extending North 158 perches to a stone thence by land of Leonhard Beitelman, Jr. East 140 perches to a stone thence by land of Casper Bingham South 192 perches to a stone on the bank of the West branch of the Delaware commonly called the Lehie, thence by the several courses of the said river 147 perches to the place of beginning. Containing 141 acres and 94 and allowances aforesaid with the appurtenances belonging to him the said David Beidelman his heirs and assigns forever under the yearly quit rent aforesaid as in and by the said indenture at large duly appeared. NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH, That the said David Beidelman and Margaret his wife for the consideration of the sum of 720 pounds in gold and silver coin unto us in hand well and truly paid to Edward Sheimer before the sealing and delivering hereof. The receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged and the said Edward Sheimer his heirs and assigns forever acquitted and discharged by these presents have granted, bargained, sold, released and confirmed and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, release, enfeoff and confirm unto said Edward Sheimer his heirs and assigns on the above last recited piece or tract of land containing 141 acres and 94 perches and allowances. Together also with all and singular the buildings, improvements, ways, woods, waters, and water courses, rights, liberties, privileges, hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining and the revisions or remainders, rents, issues and profits of all the estate, right interest, use, possession, properties, claim and demand whatsoever of them, the said David Beidelman and Margaret, his wife of in and to the hereby granted land and premises to have and to hold the same place described, tract of 141 acres, 94 perches and allowances aforesaid, hereditaments and premises hereby granted or mentioned so to be with the appurtenances of the said Edward Sheimer his heirs and assigns to the only and proper use, benefit and behoof of him the said Edward Sheimer his heirs and assigns forever in fee, under the yearly quit rent aforesaid for the hereby granted premises to the said David Beidelman for himself and for his heirs, doth covenant, promise and grant to and with him the said Edward Sheimer his heirs and assigns that he the said David Beidelman and his heirs the said last recited and above described tract of land against them the said David Beidelman and his heirs and against all other person or persons, claiming or to claim by, from or under him, them or any of them shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents. IN WITNESS WHEREOF the said David Beidelman and Margaret his wife have hereunto set and interchangeably set their hands and seals the day and year above first written.

Sealed and delivered in the

presence of

JOHN BEYL.

DAVID BEIDELMAN [SEAL]

her

MARGARET (X) BEIDELMAN [SEAL]  
mark

Received of Edward Sheimer the sum of 720 pounds in gold and silver coin, it being in full for the consideration above mentioned. I say received by me the eighteenth day of June, A. D. 1787.

Witness present at signing

JOHN BEYL.

DAVID BEIDELMAN [SEAL]

Northampton County, ss:

Before me, Christopher Wagner one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Northampton, personally appeared the within grantors, David Beidelman and Margaret, his wife and acknowledged the within deed to be their act and deed, desiring that the same may be recorded as such.

Witness my hand and seal the twenty-third day of June, A. D. 1787.

CHRISTOPHER WAGNER [SEAL]

Recorded the third day of August, 1787.

The first land that Jacob Shimer owned was in 1799 when his father, Edward Shimer, sold to him, and his brother, Isaac, a plot of 9 acres and 108 perches of the original plot of 141 acres and 94 perches, on which the two boys built a grist mill. Jacob and Isaac, who, by the way, married sisters, paid their father \$2 for the land; presumably each paid \$1. The deed intimates that the principal consideration was "the natural love the parents bore for their children." The money was paid so as to make it a legal transaction. The document was witnessed by I. Shimer. This was old Squire Isaac Shimer, of Williams Township, an uncle to the boys. About the same time they built a stone house opposite the mill. The house still stands and is well preserved; the mill, however, is a ruin, having been destroyed by fire some years ago.



Ruins of the old grist mill built by Jacob and Isaac Shimer in 1799

DEED OF EDWARD SHIMER TO JACOB SHIMER AND ISAAC SHIMER  
FOR 9 ACRES 108 PERCHES IN BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP,  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PA., JUNE 11, 1799.

The Indenture made the 11 day of January, in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine. Between Edward Shimer of Lower Saucon Township in the county of Northampton State of Pa. Yeoman, and Rosina his wife of the one part, and their sons Jacob Shimer and Isaac Shimer of the other part, Witnesseth, Whereas David Beidelman and Margaret his wife by their indenture bearing date the 18 day of June in the year 1787 did grant and confirm unto Edward Shimer aforesaid a certain tract of land with the appurtenances lying and situated in Bethlehem Township, county and state aforesaid, bounded, by metes and bounds as therein described containing one hundred and forty one acres and 94 perches and allowance adjoining the north side of the river Lehigh as in and by the same indenture recorded in the office for recording of deeds and for the county of Northampton Book F. Vol. 1 page 184 at large will appear. Now THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH that the said Edward Shimer and Rosina his wife in consideration of the natural love they bearing to their sons aforesaid as other good causes them thereunto moving and the consideration of the sum of \$2.00 to them in hand well and truly paid by Jacob Shimer and Isaac Shimer aforesaid, having granted, bargained, sold released enfeoff given and confirmed and by these presents doth grant bargain sell release enfeoff give and confirm unto them their sons Jacob Shimer and Isaac Shimer a certain parcel of the above described tract of land BEGINNING at a Water Beech standing at the north bank of the river Lehigh, thence extending by the other parcel north 18 degrees east two perches to a stone north 85 degrees east 34 perches to a Hickory, north 81 degrees and a half east 32 perches to a Hickory, north 9 degrees and a half west 3 perches and a half perch to a Hickory north 76 degrees east 23 perches to a stone, and south 14 degrees and a half east 16 perches to a stone on the bank of the Lehigh thence up on the said bank south 67 degrees west 42 perches and a half perch to a stone, south 86 degrees and a half west 25 perches to a Black Oak north 57 degrees and a half west 33 perches and a half perch to the place of beginning containing 9 acres and 108 perches of land, together also with all and singular the improvement, ways, woods, waters, water courses, rights, liberties, hereditaments and appurtenances with the reversions and remainders thereof and all the estates title interest claim and demand of them the said Edward Shimer and Rosina his wife of in and to the hereby granted premises. TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said 9 acres and 108 perches of land hereditaments and appurtenances unto them the said Jacob Shimer and Isaac Shimer in common and their respective heirs and assigns, to the only and proper use, benefit and behoof of the said Jacob Shimer and Isaac Shimer, their respective heirs and assigns in fee forever, and the said Edward Shimer and Rosina his wife the hereby grantee premises 9 acres and 108 perches of land hereditaments and appurtenances unto them the said Jacob Shimer and Isaac Shimer their respective heirs and assigns against them the said Edward Shimer and Rosina his wife his or her heirs or any other person or persons lawfully claiming or do claim by from or under them or any of them shall and will warrant and for ever defend by these presents.

In witness thereof the said Edward Shimer and Rosina his wife have to these presents set their hand and seal the day and year above first written.

Sealed and delivered in the  
presence of us

I. SHIMER  
JACOB GROSS.

EDWARD SHIMER [SEAL]  
her  
ROSINA (X) SHIMER.  
mark

Received on the day of the date in the above indenture of the above mentioned grantee the sum of two dollars in full satisfaction for the above mentioned granted land and we do fully discharge the said Jacob Shimer and Isaac Shimer their heirs and assigns of any further charges whatsoever concerning the said granted premises. We say received.

Witness present  
I. SHIMER.  
JACOB GROSS.

EDWARD SHIMER.

Entered in the office for Recording of Deeds at Easton in and for the county of Northampton in Book E, Vol. 2 page 466 the 14 January 1799.

Witness my hand and seal of office.

JOHN ARNDT, *Recorder.*

#### NORTHAMPTON COUNTY.

Before me, Isaac Shimer one of the Justices of the Peace in for the county of Northampton personally appeared the within named grantors Edward Shimer and his wife Rosina, and acknowledged the within indenture to be their act and deed and desired that the same may be recorded as such—the said Rosina being of full age and voluntary thereunto did consent. Witness my hand and seal the day and year above written.

I. SHIMER.

In 1802 Isaac sold his half to Jacob for 1200 pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania, which was equivalent to \$3,192. In 1809 Jacob sold the tract of 9 acres, the mill property, to Michael Hart, who for a number of years was the miller. This property changed hands a number of times until March 31st, 1882, when E. J. and Levi Benner sold the mill and land to Samuel and George Shimer for \$7,750. (Recorder of Deeds office, Easton, Pa., Book B, Vol. XVII, page 192.)

Samuel Shimer paid his brother, George, \$7,500 for his half interest in the 9 acres and mill, for which his grandfather, Jacob, paid \$1. It is quite a coincidence that the brothers Jacob and Isaac, sons of Edward, bought the place and built the stone house and mill, and that then Isaac sells his half interest to Jacob. Again we have brothers, Samuel and George, owning the same piece of property and Samuel sells his half to George.

At the Easton court house we find in Deed Book E, Vol. III, page 363, that Edward Shimer and wife, on January 20th, 1810, sold to their son, Jacob, the balance of the original 141 acres, namely, 132 acres, for 500 pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania. Jacob, therefore, becomes the owner of the entire original farm. He in turn leaves it by will to his youngest son, Abraham, who in turn wills it to his two sons, Samuel and George. Samuel sells his half to George, so that finally George becomes the owner of the entire original farm, mill property and all, and today (1914) it is owned by his estate.

The larger tract, too, was divided by will, and Samuel sold his half interest of this tract to his brother, George, for \$10,500. Apparently the 9 acres bought for \$2.00 in 1799 was worth, with mill and house, \$15,000 in 1885.

Edward Shimer paid David Beidelman 720 pounds in gold and silver coin (\$1920) for the 141 acres in 1787. The last transaction, the selling of Samuel's half to George, showed a valuation of \$36,000.

The Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company bought a strip of this land, September 1st, 1834.

Records show that Jacob Shimer was a progressive and successful farmer and was often consulted by his neighbors on matters of agriculture. He devised a method of farming by proper rotation of crops to suit exactly the condition of the soil, and he succeeded in raising as high as fifty bushels of wheat per acre. This won for him the first prize in a competition on methods of farming.

April, 1791, Jacob Shimer married Elizabeth Beyl, daughter of John Beyl, a prominent citizen of his time and a member of the Committee of Safety during the



ELIZABETH (BEYL) SHIMER.

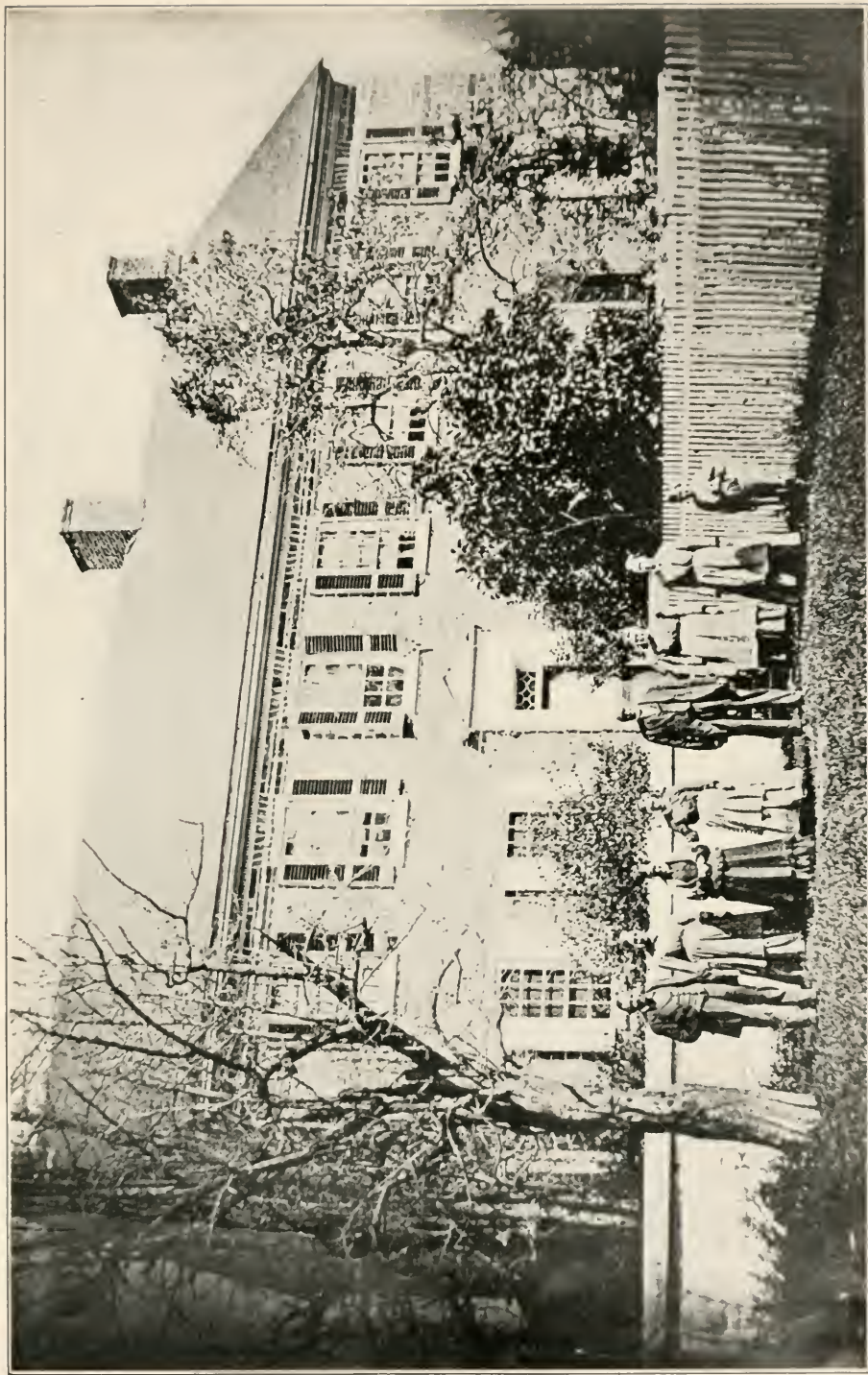
Revolution. She was born September 15th, 1772, and died January 31st, 1857, at the ripe old age of 84 years.

The children of this marriage were John, Joseph, Edward, Isaac, Jacob, Elizabeth, Samuel and Abraham.

JOHN B., born June 7th, 1792; married April 7th, 1816, Mary (Polly) Schweitzer and settled in Shimersville, Northampton County, Pa. He died July 29th, 1878.

JOSEPH B., born May 2nd, 1795; married 1818, Catherine Mills Hubler and made his home in Mt. Bethel Township, Northampton County, Pa. He died August 13th, 1878.

EDWARD B., born June 27th, 1797, married March 18th, 1821, Hannah Lerch and built his home in Forks Township, Northampton County, Pa. He died October 10th, 1869.



One of the "Old Homesteads," situated along the Lehigh River about one mile below Freemansburg. Built, 1841, by Jacob Shimer, son of Edward and Rosina Shimer. The old house is still well preserved, and many a happy Shimer gathering has been held there.

ISAAC B., born August 25th, 1799; married May 12th, 1824, Kate Apple and established himself in Shimersville, Northampton County, Pa. He died December 17th, 1863.

JACOB B., born October 10th, 1802; married March 17th, 1829, Fayettea Keck and moved to Bath, Northampton County, Pa. He died October, 1871.

ELIZABETH, born April 21st, 1805; married October 22nd, 1822, Michael Butz and lived in Easton, Northampton County, Pa. She died June 5th, 1899.



The "Old Shimer Homestead," built in 1816 at Shimersville, Northampton County, Pa., by Jacob Shimer, for his eldest son, John Beryl Shimer, who was a great-grandson of Jacob (1st) and Elizabeth Seheimer. John B. Shimer married Mary Schweitzer and here their ten children and a number of grandchildren were born.

SAMUEL B., born September 21st, 1807; married September 21st, 1852, Anna Kunes and moved to Illinois. He died March 9th, 1897.

ABRAHAM B., born March 12th, 1809; married May 23rd, Margaretta Johnson and remained at the old homestead. He died January 1st, 1881.

In 1801 Jacob Shimer built the old stone house along the Lehigh River about a mile below Freemansburg, Pa. The old house is still well preserved and is still in the possession of the Shimer family. It was at this old homestead in 1905 that the Shimer Family Reunion Association was organized and at which place the Shimers have held many pleasant reunions.



In June, 1809, for \$10,666.66, lawful money of the United States, William Curry, of Plymouth Township, in the county of Luzerne, Pa., yeoman, deeded to Jacob Shimer one hundred and eighty acres and a mill, situated in Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County, Pa., at the mouth of the Saucon Creek. Around this mill, which was known as Shimer's Mill, as a nucleus, the village of Shimersville gradually grew. The original mill, the oldest of its kind in the Lehigh Valley, was built by Jedediah Irish in 1735, and the farmers of all the section round about, in the eighteenth century, carried their grain there to be ground. This is shown by the fact that in 1743 the Moravians of Bethlehem petitioned the court to open a wagon road from their place to the mill. The road was opened. His son,



Graves of Jacob and Elizabeth Shimer, old Lower Saucon  
burying ground

Isaac B. Shimer, operated the mill until 1832, when it was again sold, this time to Samuel Leidig. In 1836 Benjamin Riegel purchased the property and in the year 1842 it passed into the possession of the late John Knecht, Mr. Riegel's son-in-law.

In 1816 Jacob Shimer built for his eldest son, John, a substantial brick house, where John and Mary Shimer reared their family of ten children and where a number of grandchildren were born. The homestead is still in the possession of one of the descendants, Mrs. Ida (Shimer) Laudenberger.

Jacob Shimer died October 5th, 1845, and lies buried in the old burying grounds at Lower Saucon Church, Northampton County, Pa., of which church he was an active member.

Following is the inscription on the tombstone:

Jacob Scheimer, er wurde geboren den 1st Januari 1767 und entschlief den 5th October 1845 alt 78 Jahre 7 Monate und 4 Tage.

His wife, Elizabeth, lies buried beside him and upon her tombstone we find the following:

Elizabeth Scheimer gatten von Jacob Scheimer geb. den 15th Sept. 1772 starb—den 31st Jan. 1857 alt 84 Jahre 4 Mo. 15 Tage.

We note that even in those early days they began to abbreviate words. The will of Jacob Shimer reads most beautifully and shows the character of the man, especially by his thoughtfulness of his wife's welfare.

#### WILL OF JACOB SHIMER.

In the name of God, Amen. I, Jacob Shimer of Bethlehem Township in the County of Northampton and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Yeoman, being in good health of body and of a sound, disposing mind, memory and understanding prepared by God for the same by consideration that it is appointed for all men once to die, and when it shall please God to call me hence and being desirous of settling my worldly affairs whilst I have strength and capacity so to do: Do therefore make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First and principally of all, I commit my immortal soul into the hands of God my Creator, who gave it, and my body to the earth to be buried in a decent, christianlike manner, at the discretion of my executors hereinafter named and as to such worldly estate herewith, it has pleased God to help me in this life, I give and dispose of the same as follows, to wit:

It is my will and I order and direct my executors hereinafter named to pay all my just debts and funeral expenses within one month after my decease. I give and bequeath unto my dearly beloved wife, Elizabeth during her natural life the sole use of the new building attached to my old house wherein I at present reside together with room on the first floor and one room on the second floor in the old house adjoining the new building and the said garden in front of the house, and after the decease of my wife, I give and devise the same to my son Abraham to his heirs and assigns forever, under and subject, however, to the use and privilege hereafter given and bequeathed to my son Samuel B. Shimer. I also give and bequeath unto my said wife, Elizabeth the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100) to be paid to her out of my estate immediately after my decease, and I further order and direct that my son Abraham B., his heirs and assigns shall pay unto my said wife, Elizabeth, out of the plantation hereinafter devised to him, the sum of One Hundred and

Eighty Dollars (\$180) yearly and every year during her natural life and if any part thereof should not be taken up and remain then unpaid at the time of her decease it shall not go to my estate, but shall go to and belong to my son Abraham B. I also give and bequeath to my said wife, Elizabeth during her natural life my gig, all my linen, and all my household goods and kitchen furniture, and immediately after her decease I give and bequeath the same to my seven following named children, to wit:—John B., Joseph B., Edward B., Jacob B., Samuel B., Abraham B. Shimer and to my daughter Elizabeth, wife of Michael Butz to which I give divided between them, their heirs and legal representatives. And further it is my will and I order and direct that my said son Abraham B. to whom I hereinafter give and devise my plantation, shall keep a gentle horse for my said wife and suffer and permit her to use the same whenever she pleases so to do and also to keep a good milk cow for my said wife, feed and pasture the same with and like his or their own and at such times when the said cow gives no milk, he or they shall permit my said wife to take of his or their milk or cream so much as she shall or may reasonably want for her family use. And my said son Abraham B., his heirs and assigns shall also furnish and deliver to my said wife, Elizabeth, all the wheat and rye flour, buckwheat meal, grist, pork, beef, lard, potatoes, &c. which she may want for family use at such time or times as she shall and may require.

He or they shall haul to her dwelling as much fire wood as she may reasonably want for her use cut small and ready prepared for the stove and other uses and annually manure the small garden in her possession and allow her to take and use as many apples, pears, cherries and other fruit growing on the premises as she may want. All this he and they shall do, perform, permit, suffer, and allow to my said wife, Elizabeth during her natural life without any charge demand or claim for the same.

I give and bequeath to my son John B. Shimer or his heirs the sum of \$4,000 for which I hold a bond against him. I give and bequeath to my son Joseph B. Shimer or his heirs the sum of \$4,000 for which I hold a bond against him. I give and bequeath to my son Edward B. Shimer or his heirs the sum of \$4,000 for which I hold a bond against him. I give and bequeath to my son Isaac B. Shimer or his heirs the sum of \$4,000 for which I hold a bond against him. I give and bequeath to my son Jacob B. Shimer or his heirs the sum of \$4,000 for which I hold a bond against him. I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth intermarried with Michael Butz the sum of \$4,000 that I have lent and advanced to her and charged against her on the books. It is my will and I hereby order and direct that the amounts due to me or which hereafter become due to me on bonds, notes or otherwise against me of my children and the entries in my books against either of them (except the sum of \$4,000 to each of my sons:—John B., Jos. B., Edward B., Isaac B., Jacob B., and to my daughter Elizabeth as hereinbefore mentioned) shall be taken and deducted from his or her balance or receipt, residue and remainder of my estate.

I give and bequeath to my two sons, Samuel B. and Abraham B. and to their heirs and assigns my two gray horses. I give and devise to my son Abraham B. Shimer my plantation and tract or piece of land situated in Bethlehem Township aforesaid adjoining land of David Stauffer, Jacob Freeman, John Schweitzer, Michael Paulus, Phillip Clauss and Susan VonSteuben and others, and the river Lehigh containing 130 acres, be the same more or less, together with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging. To have and to hold the same to him, my son Abraham B. Shimer his heirs and assigns forever, under and subject nevertheless to the reservations, right, liberty, and privilege, &c. heretofore given and bequeathed to my wife Elizabeth and under and subject also to the payment of the sum of \$4,000 to my son Samuel B. Shimer his heirs and assigns as follows:—

\$2,000 thereof one year after my decease and the remaining \$2,000 two years after my decease and also further under and subject that my said son Samuel B. shall have the free right, liberty and privilege during his natural life (subject to the bequest hereinbefore given and bequeathed to my wife, Elizabeth in case she survives me) personally for his own use and benefit to occupy, possess and enjoy the new building attached to my old house and the small garden in front of same and sufficient room in the frame part of the barn to keep one horse and room in the frame stable to store hay and fodder for the same and to take as much manure as he may reasonably want annually during said term to manure said garden and to take and use as much water out of the well and pump as he may want for himself and horse together with the free and uninterrupted right, liberty and privilege to pass and repass into, along and through the yard, barn and stable without the right or privilege however of renting or leaving the same premises or any part or parcel thereof and without permitting or allowing any person or persons, family or families, except his housekeeper, servant or servants to dwell or reside therein or to use and occupy them or any part or parcel thereof and upon breach of these conditions or in case my said son Samuel B. shall not occupy, possess and enjoy the said premises for the term or space of one year and six months after my decease or after the decease of my wife, Elizabeth in case she survives me.

I give and devise to my son Abraham B. my lot of land with the appurtenances situated in Lower Saucon in the County aforesaid near Freeman's Bridge adjoining land of Jacob Freeman, Benjamin Riegel and the river Lehigh to hold the same to him, my said son Abraham B. his heirs and assigns forever, for which said lot of land he or they shall pay the sum of \$3,000 to my executors for the use of my estate in six months after my decease and in case my said son Abraham B. shall not accept the said lot at the sales aforesaid, then and in such cases I order and direct that the same shall be sold to the best advantage and for the best price that may be reasonably gotten for the same and the moneys raised from the sale thereof shall go to my residuary estate and for that purpose. I do hereby authorize and empower my executors hereinafter named and the survivors of them to sign, seal and acknowledge all such deed or deeds of conveyance as may be requisite and necessary for the granting and assuring the same to the purchaser or purchasers thereof in fee simple. All the rest, residue and remainder of my estate real and personal of what kind or nature wheresoever the same may be not hereinbefore devised or bequeathed, I give and bequeath the same to my eight children to be equally divided between them, share and share alike as follows, to wit:—To my son John B. Shimer his heirs and assigns one share; to my son Joseph B. Shimer his executors and assigns one share; to my son Edward B. Shimer his executors, administrators and assigns one share; to my son Isaac B. Shimer his executors and assigns one share; to my son Jacob B. Shimer his heirs and assigns one share; to my son Abraham B. Shimer his executors, administrators and assigns one share and to my daughter Elizabeth the wife of Michael Butz her executors, administrators and assigns one share. Provided however, that my son Isaac B. his executors, administrators and assigns shall not be entitled to receive any part of his share until his whole amount of his indebtedness to my estate (except the \$4,000 hereinbefore bequeathed to him) shall first have been settled and paid and raised. I appoint my son Abraham B. and my son-in-law Michael Butz to be executors of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all other wills and bequests by me hereto made and declaring this and no other to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 12th day of November in the year of our Lord 1844 and have also written my name at the bottom of each page.

(Signed) JACOB SHIMER.

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said testator as his last will and testament, in the presence of us who in his presence and at his request have subscribed our names as witnesses. (Note the words "the same" between the first and second lines of the second page and the words "as much" between the fifth and sixth lines and the words "one share" between the forty-eighth and forty-ninth lines on the third page.

DANIEL W. BUTZ

J. K. HACKMAN

LEVI BUTZ

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, SS.

On the twenty-ninth day of December, 1844 before me, Phillip H. Mattes, Register of the probate of wills in and for the County aforesaid, personally appeared Daniel W. Butz and Jefferson K. Hackman two of these subscribing witnesses to the foregoing instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Jacob Shimer deceased and being duly sworn according to law did say that they were present and did see and hear the said Jacob Shimer the testator sign, seal, publish and declare the same as and for his last will and testament, that at the time of so doing he was of sound and perfect mind, memory and understanding to the best of their knowledge. Observe and believe that they signed the same as witnesses in the presence and at the request of the said testator and in the presence of each other and in the presence of Levi Butz. Witness my hand and seal, Phillip Mattes, Register, same day letters testamentary were granted to Abraham B. Shimer and Michael Butz the executors in the said will named, having first and duly sworn according to law.

PHILLIP H. MATTES [SEAL]

NOTE: It will be noticed by the above will that the middle initial of all the sons of Jacob and Elizabeth Shimer was "B." Undoubtedly the letter "B" stands for Beyl, the maiden name of their mother. The writer never knew of this fact before reading the above will. For this reason no mention was made of it in Volume I.

All descendants of Jacob and Elizabeth (Beyl) Shimer are eligible to membership in either the Sons or Daughters of the American Revolution. Jacob's father, Edward Shimer, was a Captain in the First Battalion from Northampton County, Pa., under Colonel George Hubner in 1777, and also a member of the Revolutionary Committee of Safety of Northampton County, Pa. Elizabeth (Beyl) Shimer's father, John Beyl, was also a member of the Revolutionary Committee of Safety.

From the original muster rolls in the Division of Public Record we find the following (5th Series, Pennsylvania Archives, Vol. VIII, page 167):

"This is to certify that Jacob Lark was and performed duty as 4th Coporal, whilst Edward Shymer (Shimer) and Geo. Stuber was Captain of this 4th Company, Malitia, of Lower Saucon, and is now the 4th Serg't of said Company. Witness my hand this 14th day of Feb. 1782. Jesse Jones, Cap't."

## SHIMERSVILLE.

**S**HIMERSVILLE is the oldest village in Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County, Pa. It is situated at the mouth of the Saucon Creek and was named after Jacob Shimer, grandson of Jacob, 1st. The name Saucon is supposed to be derived from the Indian name "sakunk," which means at the place of the creek's mouth. This is the more probable because there was an Indian village at the mouth of the Saucon and the first settlers may have understood the Indians to mean by "sakunk," the name of the creek. Even after the white settlers had arrived the Indians returned at least once a year, to hold some of their ceremonies on the spot where once the village of their forefathers stood. Saucon was created a township of Bucks County in 1742.



In 1899 the "Old Home" was remodeled by John A. Laudemberger, husband of Ida R. Shimer, a granddaughter of John B. Shimer.

Years ago the village contained about twenty dwelling houses, one store, one gristmill, one sawmill, a foundry and a blacksmith shop. There, too, was the never-to-be-forgotten old covered bridge. Time, however, has wrought many changes in that picturesque little village. Today it is the center of great industrial activities. The one-time beautiful farms are covered with the large plants of the Bethlehem Steel Company and the William Shimer Son & Co. plant. The trolley cars pass through the village every few minutes; the old sawmill is a thing of the past; the store is replaced by the palatial residence of Mr. Howard Knecht; and the old homestead, built in 1816 by Jacob Shimer for his eldest son, John, has been remodeled and is the beautiful home of Mrs. Ida (Shimer) Laudenberger.

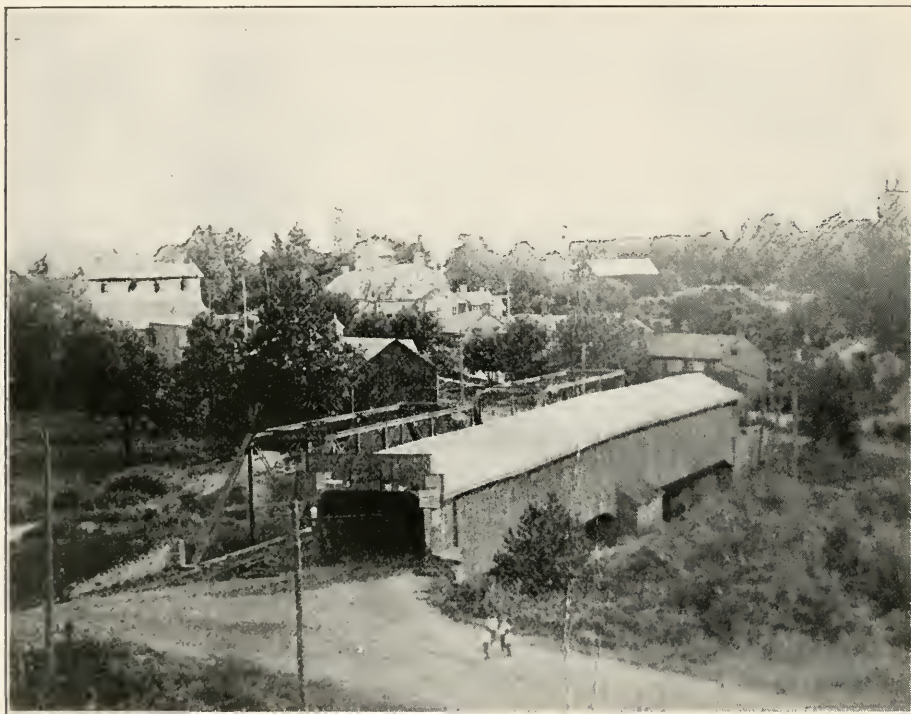
The foundry, originally a woolen mill, was built in 1824 by John B. Shimer. For a number of years it was leased to William Chamberlain, but in 1837 George Shimer, son of John B. Shimer, took charge. In 1842 the freshet washed away the frame building and flooded the machinery. A new stone building was erected in its stead. In 1863 the mill burnt down. It was rebuilt at once, but in 1864 it burnt down a second time. James O. Shimer now entered into copartnership with his brother, George, and a new building was erected. Business increased until as much as \$60,000 worth of woolen goods were manufactured in one year. In 1872 George sold out his interest to James, who removed the business to Allentown, Pa. The building remained idle until March, 1875, when Shimer & Co., composed of William Shimer (brother of George), his two sons, Milton J. and Irvin H., and his brother, Jacob T. Shimer (father of the writer), commenced the foundry and machine business. They began the manufacture of hardware soon after, such as sad irons, scales, toys and small hardware in general. In this mill, in 1877, when a boy of 14, the writer worked, making cores for the foundry and helping to paint scales, etc. Today (1914) the plant is one of the largest independent manufactories of small ware in the country, and the goods are shipped to all parts of the world. The business is conducted by Milton J. Shimer and his son, Stanley D., under the firm name of William Shimer Son & Co.

The old covered bridge at the foot of the village appeared to be a favorite resting place for the cows during the night, especially in summer, and, as there were no electric lights to illuminate the bridge, which was a very dark one, the villagers told tales of stumbling among the cattle. The bridge is now replaced with a modern iron structure.

Just below the old bridge, along the creek, stands a modest little home which was built by George Shimer for his twin brother, Samuel, who afterward became the owner of the property. On the ridge, just back of this house, stood a large hickory tree and beside this tree was a heavy stone, around which centers an interesting story. Milton J. Shimer told the writer, that when a lad living with his parents at the old homestead at the upper end of the village, it was his duty, as well as pleasure (?) to plow that land and he always had the good fortune to run his plow against this stone which gave him a sudden jolt. Speaking to his grandfather, John B. Shimer, about it he was told that it was a headstone marking the last resting place of several white people and some Indians who were buried there many

years ago. The graves were seen under this giant hickory tree as late as 1850, but for many years no traces remained to mark the spot where the bodies of these early settlers lay.

In 1912, when the workmen in the employ of F. H. Clements & Co. were laying the water main system from the Lehigh Coke Company's plant to the Lehigh River, which passed this spot, their steam shovel unearthed a skeleton. For some time, Milton J. Shimer had the skull in his office and it brought to mind his boyhood days when his plow would strike the stone marking the last resting place of those buried there.



The old covered bridge which crossed the Saucon Creek at Shimersville, Northampton County, Pa.

Investigation and research developed an interesting story in reference to this "private burial plot" in Shimersville, where three white persons, namely, John Curry, his wife, Lathrop Cruikshank Curry, her brother, Dr. James Cruikshank, and an Indian, were buried.

The land on which Shimersville is located was originally purchased from proprietaries by Jedediah Irish in 1735. The Penns disposed of 100,000 acres of land by lottery. Mr. Irish held three tickets and he was entitled to three tracts of 500 acres each, two of which he selected on the south bank and one on the north bank of the Lehigh River. Afterward he sold two of the tracts to the Moravians,



part of Bethlehem being located on one of them. In October, 1743, Mr. Irish conveyed 600 acres and the gristmill to George Cruikshank, a sugar planter on the island of Montserrat, West Indies, whose father, the Rev. James Cruikshank, was a Lutheran clergyman. The latter died in 1725. George Cruikshank, before his death in 1746, added 300 more acres to his tract lying contiguous along the Saucon Creek. After his death the property descended to his two children, James, a medical practitioner, and Lathrop, a daughter. The latter married, in 1769, John Curry, a lawyer of Reading. Mr. Curry soon after his marriage retired from the bar and with his wife took up his residence on the Cruikshank lands in what is now Shimersville, entering into possession of 450 acres of land, the homestead and the mill. In 1787 Mr. Curry deeded back to his brother-in-law, Doctor Cruikshank, 180 acres including the mill. Dr. James Cruikshank in his will, dated September 24th, 1802, bequeathed to Mary, Francis and William Curry, children of John and Lathrop Curry, the aforementioned 180 acres and mill, both of which were deeded by William Curry, then of Plymouth Township, Luzerne County, to Jacob Shimer, of Bethlehem Township, in June, 1809, for \$10,666.66.

The writer asked Edgar Dubs Shimer, Ph. D., LL. D., of New York City, for some reminiscence of his boyhood days at Shimersville. Following is his reply:

At the mouth of Saucon Creek just a few rods above the point of junction with the Lehigh River, in Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County, Pa., lies the hamlet of Shimersville, to me the dearest spot on earth because of the many fond associations that cluster around it.

Here I was born and here my youthful joys and sorrows were intermingled, until at the age of sixteen I went to college.

My grandfather, John Beyl Shimer, had retired from farming, and lived in a substantial brick house at the top of the hill opposite the stone homestead, occupied by his oldest son, my uncle William, who ran the farm.

At the foot of the hill stood my father's house and store, with land enough attached to contain a large garden and nearly three hundred fruit trees of various kinds, not to mention the numerous grape vines and berry bushes, the frequent delight and as frequent torment of my young existence. The lawns were kept close shaven; and there were no lawn mowers in those days. Well marked scars on my hands remind me often of my tribulations in learning how to whet a moon-shaped sickle. How tired my fingers grew from grasping the sheep-shears in trimming out corners! Peach borers had to be dug out and every choice plant had to be carefully mulched. The walks were smoothly laid with tan bark every year. Fruits were carefully gathered and garnered for winter supply. The days were joyfully busy for all, young and old, and I was no doubt but a small factor in the solution of the problem of keeping things spick and span.

The store was the chief gathering place for the community, although there was a tavern next door. Across the way was a gristmill with its fascinating crane to lift into its second story the bags of grain brought in farmers' wagons standing below. Who could understand the mystery of the ascending and descending elevator cups fastened on a broad strap that revolved endlessly? What peepings! And what dire forebiddings! But the dusty miller with his white hat was a kindly soul, so by degrees I learned to know the windings in and about the old mill, which nevertheless lost none of its uncanny strangeness. I can still hear the remorseless grating of the mill stones, the whirring of the large straps and the susurrus of the lighter gear. I can still feel the lulling influence of the place. As I surrender myself to

this charm, the long, long thoughts of youth flock in upon my memory and again I seem to have as then a vision of the far beyond.

Just below the gristmill was a sawmill with a large log yard in front of it. This was an open playground. Here we gathered sawdust to carry to the smoke house in which hung the treasures of the butchering season. It took some skill to make a fire and so to smother it with sawdust as to have only smoke ooze out at the top to cure ham, beef, sausages and other such *delicatessen*. I can vouch that a boy with a sharp knife in a smoke house well filled can secure a surreptitious tidbit of very delicate eating even after he has well started the smudge. But dragging home slabs from the sawmill, sawing them up into convenient lengths, splitting these up and piling the pieces in the wood house gave less exhilaration than exercise. However, there was much gamboling in the sawmill before the slabs could be collected. After the vociferous saw had cut its way partly into a well trussed log we might now and then ride on the rear of the log for the rest of its journey, but we always did this with the fearsome pleasure attending peril.

Choked with dust, or thirsty from exercise, we would rush across the street to the old pump by the sidewalk, just below the tavern, and by dint of many small pumpings of the long pump-arm finally drew from the cool depths below the most delicious liquid refreshment that mortals can know.

There were some of the older folk who would pass by this upper pump and go to one lower down in the village because of a refinement in taste not possessed by us younger ones. As I grew older, I tried under the law of imitation, to make a decision for myself, but failed because the last drink I took, no matter at which pump it happened to be, always seemed to be the best I had ever had.

But the blacksmith in his shop at the lowest point of the village where a covered bridge crossed the creek, preferred the water from the upper pump, as I well recollect, for did I not have to pass by the lower pump to go five rods farther whenever I was called on to fill his water jug? We had to pass by the blacksmith shop if we wanted to go rowing or fishing or swimming in the Lehigh, so we often saw the place and watched its activities. Then, too, we took horses there to be shod, tools to be mended and knives to be sharpened. The place was a lodestone for us all. How much my cousin Milton was influenced by this smithy I cannot tell, but he was hardly fourteen when he had a small forge of his own. To my mind he was a necromancer in iron. It was he who made the first frictional electric generator that I ever saw, and the first Leyden jar. The thrill of that experience will never die. Milton was older than the rest of us cousins, and naturally was our leader. He had all the virtues of a good leader, and he influenced us for good. The memory of a certain respect for him, coupled with affection, is very clear. I cannot recollect him, for example, wearing curls. I can clearly recollect seeing aunt Susan clip off cousin Irwin's long flaxen curls, and my own quick trip home with the cry that I wasn't going to wear curls any longer if Irwin didn't. My clamor prevailed and two funnier bob-cats were never seen in that village before. We were teased unmercifully, but Milton protected us. We learned to ride and to drive, to fish and to gun, to row and to make nets, to scale trees and to trap game, to build sleds and to ride them, above all to make a good whip lash and crack it like a man.

Of course, we went to school, winter and summer, and glorious times we had. Unless my memory is very faulty, we received most excellent schooling. I can recall vividly a class discussion on punctuation as affecting the mood of a verb. I can still repeat songs and memory gems learned at that time. My tongue never slips in repeating long exercises in phonetics practiced then. How plainly a piece of phosphorus appeared to be an innocent looking object so long as it was properly covered, and how it fumed and burned when in free air! The old school-house fairly rises out of the past.

What a chase we had one morning with our Gray's First Lessons in Botany in securely identifying *Linaria vulgaris*! My taste for botany was formed in this school.

It was this teacher who told me I ought to become a teacher and under his urging, I secured my first teacher's license. The Mount Pleasant school is of blessed memory.

When my father, James O. Shimer, sold out his store and his candle factory, and joined his brother, my uncle George, in the manufacture of woolens in the old woolen mill across the Saucon not far from the village, I began to spend my spare time with machines. Here, my cousin John, who was shot in the Civil War, and my cousin, Gilvin T. Roth, now a successful woolen manufacturer in North Carolina, and I, vied with each other in learning to master every form of manipulation of wool, and all the various machines, with the idea of conducting the business on our own account at some future period. The untimely death of cousin John put an end to the plan. Uncle Samuel, twin brother to uncle George, fostered the scheme and gave us much sympathetic aid. We had to repair our own machines whenever they were out of order. The training was eminently practical and had a beneficial, intellectual reaction because we had to render a clear and succinct report of what we had done.

During this period Gilvin showed great skill in mechanics. In his leisure he constructed a small steam engine that worked successfully.

Later he joined Milton in Philadelphia, where both pursued the final study of mechanics, and I went to college.

My mother's father, Rev. Joseph S. Dubs, D. D., was a preacher; so were both her brothers, Alfred and Joseph. What more likely than that I should study for the ministry? I had a fondness for philosophy even at this early age. My father had been a superintendent of a Sunday school for many years. Theological discussions were nothing unusual. Aunt Sallie gathered us together at grandfather's house weekly for Bible study. Uncle George led us carefully through Rollin's Ancient History in weekly lessons. He and I spent hours after the lessons were over in discussing mooted points.

Those were days of steady growth in reaching after a man's way of thinking and in gaining power to reach safe conclusions.

Shimersville was not a stagnant country village to me. Field and forest, home and shop industries, school and church activities, and above all, daily personal communion in thought and spirit with my elders, not only those of blood relation, opened wide vistas of mental possibilities that I have ever since striven to keep in view.

Had it not been for my blessed mother, I should most likely be a storekeeper, or a woolen manufacturer, or a mechanic. Horace Mann says that there is no discredit in selling tape by the yard, that the only discredit lies in having a soul no wider than the tape and no longer than the yard stick. I do not disparage such pursuits. However, the older I grow, the more it is borne in upon me that the one thing I ought to do is to teach. It answers the cry of my soul and does not seem at any time to be toil. There is daily joy in the daily performance of duty.

If the little village of Shimersville can have made it possible for me to develop an ideal of life which satisfies the more it is realized, it is a safe inference that others who have gone out into the world to carve their fortunes, look back to their early experiences in this community, with the same fondness that possesses me, and that they will understand the motives which prompt these lines even though they have been written practically at the command of our cousin Allen, who will not be put off, and whose enthusiasm is so contagious.

Let us hope that he will, himself, put pen to paper and give us the same racy, running account of historical data on Shimersville, the birthplace of his father, my uncle Jacob, as he gave us orally at our reunion of his trip among the Shimers elsewhere. He spent much of his youth in this place and can give us glimpses of life there that we will enjoy.

It would take a well organized book of many chapters to describe adequately my birthplace and the life I lived there until I was sixteen years of age. This slight sketch may, however, serve to revive in the minds of some of its readers faded memories of their own blessed experience in this blessed hamlet. If such memories, like mine, have never faded but have always kept fresh and bright all the better. Then we may rejoice together that our Shimer reunions have been glorified by a full recognition and an abiding appreciation of what our fathers and mothers did for us in the old homestead.

## ISAAC SHIMER.

ISAAC SHIMER, second son of Edward and Rosina Shimer, and grandson of Jacob Scheimer, 1st, was born at the old homestead at Shimerton, now Redington, Pa., May 6th, 1769.

In 1796 he married Susanna Beyl, daughter of John and Dorothea Beyl, and sister of Elizabeth Beyl, who was the wife of his brother, Jacob. Brothers married sisters.

John Beyl, father-in-law of Isaac and Jacob Shimer, a large landowner in Northampton County, was one of the most prominent citizens of his day in that county. He was a member of the Revolutionary Committee of Safety and held the office of Justice under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1784.

On February 11th, 1806, a number of citizens met in the Stone Church, near Ironville in Lower Saucon, Northampton County, and consulted how best to promote Christian virtue and put an end to the immoralities of the neighborhood. An association was formed "For the encouragement of Christian virtue and the advancement of civil order." Of this organization, John Beyl was elected President.

Isaac Shimer was, as was most everybody in those days in Northampton County, a farmer. We find on January 20th, 1810, just fourteen years after he was married, a record in the Recorder's office at Easton, Pa., Book E, Vol. III, page 371, of a deed of Edward and Rosina Shimer to Isaac Shimer for 166 acres of land. The land was a part of the original plot bought by Jacob Scheimer, 1st, in 1740. This same land is still in the possession of the descendants of Isaac Shimer. The deed was witnessed by John Beyl, his father-in-law, and Jacob Lerch. A part of the deed reads as follows: "Now know ye that the said Edward Shimer and Rosina his wife in consideration of their natural love which they bear their son, as also for the consideration of the sum of five hundred pounds lawful money in Pennsylvania, unto them in hand well and truly paid by their son Isaac Shimer before the sealing and delivering thereof, the receipt is hereby acknowledged, etc., etc." We note that a part of the consideration was the "natural love" which the parents bore their son. Surely a good family trait.

We find that on the same date, January 20th, 1810, Edward Shimer sold to his son, Jacob (Edward Shimer had two sons, Jacob and Isaac), his farm on the north bank of the river Lehigh nearly opposite Isaac's farm, for 500 pounds. Isaac paid 500 pounds for 166 acres and Jacob paid the same amount for 132 acres. At this time Edward Shimer was about 70 years of age, Jacob about 43 and Isaac 41.

Isaac Shimer died January 1st, 1838, and lies buried in the old burying ground at Lower Saucon Church, of which church he was a member.

Some time after his death his widow went to live with her daughter, Lydia, wife of David Boyer, with whom she spent the rest of her days, dying April, 1848.



The old graveyard and Saucon Church, where Isaac Shimer and his wife, Susanna, are buried, also his brother, Jacob, and wife, Elizabeth. Here, too, lies buried Jacob Schimer, son of Jacob, 1st. It is the oldest known Shimer grave in America.

Isaac Shimer and Susanna, his wife, had three sons and two daughters.

CHARLES, born January 17th, 1797; died July 4th, 1839. Married, December 25th, 1818, Catherine Boyer.

JESSE, born February 4th, 1801; died October 6th, 1856. Married, 1822, Catherine Lutz (Lutts).

THOMAS, born July 1st, 1804; died September 11th, 1837. Married, November 28th, 1827, Susan Lutz.

LYDIA, born July 28th, 1806; died March 17th, 1863. Married David Boyer.

SARAH, born January 14th, 1809; died 1835. Married, 1827, John P. Lutz.

NOTE: All descendants of Isaac and Susanna (Beyl) Shimer are eligible to membership in either the Sons or Daughters of the American Revolution. Isaac's father, Edward Shimer, was a Captain in the First Battalion from Northampton County, Pa., under Colonel George Hubner in 1777. (Page 167, Vol. VIII, 5th Series, Pennsylvania Archives.)

## JACOB SCHANTZ SHIMER, M. D.

JACOB SCHANTZ SHIMER, M. D., son of Charles Shimer and Anna Schantz, was born in Shimerville, Lehigh County, April 4th, 1836. His paternal grandfather was also his godfather and first teacher, who, as soon as the grandson could talk, took him upon his lap and taught him the German alphabet out of a newspaper. It was not long until he could read, when his godfather procured a booklet containing pictures of birds, and a brief and simple description of them. Among others, was an eagle. This was his first lesson in natural history.

As was customary with farmers' sons, he had to work on the farm, according to his strength, as he grew older. His educational advantages were limited to such as public schools, at that time, meagerly afforded. Notwithstanding, by the time he had reached his fifteenth year, he had "mastered" Pike's and Rose's arithmetics; mensuration, surveying, which embraced logarithms and plane trigonometry, and algebra. All the copies of examples, as he worked them out, are still in the possession of his children. This had to be accomplished mostly on long winter evenings by the pale and ineffectual light of the fat lamp with the tow wick.

During his fifteenth year, he served as clerk in a general store in his native place. He also served as deputy postmaster for his father, for some years, during and prior to this. He was now given the advantages of one term of six months' instruction in the Easton Seminary, and, immediately following, entered the Allentown Academy, where he studied one year. He confined himself principally to the study of English Grammar, Latin and French.

In the spring of 1855, he took up the study of medicine, under the preceptorship of Dr. Tilghman H. Martin, of Allentown; and, in the fall of the same year, entered the office of the Professor of Surgery, Dr. Henry H. Smith, in the University of Pennsylvania, as private student, at the same time matriculating in the university. He also took two extra courses—one on "Surgical Anatomy and Operative Surgery" under the late Professor of Surgery, D. Hayes Agnew, and in the Philadelphia School of Practical Obstetrics for instruction in "Theoretical, Practical and Clinical Obstetrics" by the late Professor of Obstetrics, Dr. R. A. F. Penrose, from which he received special diplomas. He also served, during his last term, in the dispensary of the university. On March 27th, 1857, he received his diploma from his alma mater, and immediately entered into full partnership with Dr. Samuel Ridgway Rittenhouse, in Millerstown, where he practiced medicine for eleven months.

He married, the same year, Miss Caroline C. Smith, daughter of William C. Smith, a wholesale leather merchant of Philadelphia. In the year 1858, he removed to his native place, and practiced medicine for about six years. He sold his property in 1865 to Dr. Albert M. Sigmund. In 1866, Doctor Shimer united himself with the Evangelical Association and was licensed, in the spring of 1866, as a

minister of the gospel. He continued to preach the gospel in several circuits of the church, in and near Philadelphia, for several years. He was then compelled to resign his ministerial charge on account of throat trouble, and returned to his medical profession, which he practiced until his death.

During his ministry, he was English Secretary of the East Pennsylvania Conference, convened at Reading, Pa., in 1868. He was a frequent contributor to the two church organs of the Evangelical Church, *Der Christliche Botschafter* and *The Evangelical Messenger*, for many years; and, from 1880 to 1890, he was a corresponding editor of a non-sectarian quarterly magazine for scientific and practical theology—*Vierteljahresschrift fuer Wissenschaftliche und Praktische Theologie* (in German), published in Cleveland, Ohio. He was also for many years a member of the Board of School Directors of the Thirteenth Section. His wife died August 22nd, 1897.

The issue of his marriage was one son, William Smith, born December 1st, 1865, and six daughters: Catherine Virginia, born November 18th, 1858; died May 7th, 1862. Annie Ellen, born November 25th, 1861; died August 25th, 1862. Ida Minerva, born November 16th, 1863. Caroline Salome, born November 23rd, 1867. Irene Cecilia, born August 15th, 1871; died October 20th, 1891. Mary Elizabeth, born December 15th, 1874.

Doctor Shimer suffered two attacks of apoplexy in the summer of 1898, as a result of which he passed away on July 27th of the same year, and was laid at rest in the church yard of the Lutheran Church in Zionsville, Lehigh County, Pa.

(Vol. I, page 97, Shimer History.)



Grave and monument of Dr. Jacob Schantz Shimer, Zionsville Church, Zionsville, Lehigh County, Pa.





Twelfth reunion of the Shimer family at the home of Robert A. Shimer, Riegelsville, Pa., August 12th, 1911.

## REUNIONS.

[The writer asked Porter W. Shimer, E. M., Ph. D., of Easton, Pa., for a short sketch on our recent family reunions. Following is his reply.]

OUR PRESIDENT has asked for a short account of the reunions of the years 1911 to 1913 and, like a good soldier, I must obey. The reunion of 1911 was held at the homes of our Riegelsville cousins, Robert A. Shimer and Mrs. B. F. Fackenthal, Jr. These beautiful and hospitable homes stand side by side, looking out through their groves of forest trees, over cousin Sarah's garden, to the Delaware River and beyond. The view from the rear lawns, which are unvexed by dividing line or hedge, is a delightful bit of picturesque farm and wood-covered Pennsylvania hillside.

The summer day we spent amid these ideal surroundings, with overflowing cousinly "gemuetlichkeit" on all sides, was one of those rare days which live in the memory as long as life lasts. The weather was perfect for which, next to Providence, we must thank the good Fackenthals, for was it not proverbial "Fackenthal weather"? That the tables were covered with every good thing to eat goes without saying, for the Shimer cooks of today are worthy descendants of a long and able line. We had good music and this found its way to the heart all the more easily because much of it was made by our own home folks. The addresses we listened to with so much pleasure seemed, one and all, to be specially inspired by the place and the occasion. We had cousin Edgar Dubs Shimer with us and he talked to us as only he can. We all hope that he will be spared for very many reunions to come in robust health and strength so that he may continue, each year, to please, instruct and inspire us by his inimitable talks.

The day came to an end with wishes for a long life and happiness for our kind hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Shimer and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Fackenthal, Jr.

The reunion of 1912 was held at "The Pines," the home of Mr. William S. Shimer and wife, near Phillipsburg, N. J. This fine old Shimer homestead, set in its pine grove, testifying to the solid prosperity of the able farmers of the olden time, was a most appropriate place for the family to gather. In spite of a dismal rain there was a large attendance. The meeting was held indoors and on the porches and there was every evidence that the rain failed to dampen in the least the spirits of those present. A very interesting feature of the meeting was the presentation, with the hearty approval of all those present, of a handsome gavel to the President of the Family Association. On one side of the gavel is a silver plate bearing the following inscription: "To Allen R. Shimer. Presented by your dear cousins for the great interest taken in the Shimer Family, August 10th, 1912." On



Shimer reunion held at the home of William S. Shimer, Phillipsburg, N. J., August 10th, 1912

a similar plate on the other side the following words are inscribed: "This apple-wood was taken from your great-grandfather's orchard at Dry Land, Northampton County, Pa., Jacob Scip Shimer."

The surprise and momentary embarrassment of the recipient were enjoyed by all, but it did not take him long to rise to the occasion and respond to the presentation address of Mr. Hart with an appropriate speech.

The thanks of all are due to our hosts for all that they did to make our meeting a success.

The reunion of 1913 was held at Oakland Park. We have had other meetings in this place and our memory of them is apt to be a composite of all of them; they do not stand out with the individuality of those held in the homesteads. However, it would be hard to meet at any place in Northampton County that has not a family association of some kind, and Oakland Park is not far from a number of the old home nests.

This meeting was notable for the organization of the Shimer Historical Society, whose main purpose is to gather together and periodically to publish matters of interest bearing on the history and genealogy of the Shimer family.

It would never do to close this brief account without acknowledging a debt of gratitude to Mr. Joe H. Hart, who, as chairman of the entertainment committee, always does so much to add to the enjoyment of everybody, young and old. And last, but by no means least, we are always indebted for the success of our reunions to our President, Allen R. Shimer; to our Secretary, Howard E. Shimer and to our Treasurer, Joseph P. Shimer

PORTER W. SHIMER.



Fourteenth reunion of the Shimer family, July 24th, 1913, Oakland Park, Pa.

## AX'S BURYING GROUND.

IN VOLUME I, page 7, fourth line, reference is made to Ax's burying ground. In July, 1912, the writer had the pleasure of meeting W. B. Prichett, Esq., at his home, 6205 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. Mr. Prichett is a respected citizen of Germantown, and for many years has been the overseer of this old burying ground. In his possession, carefully wrapped in paper and kept in a box, was an old book which contained the following record written nearly two hundred years ago:

"Transactions and Proceedings relating to the Upper Germantown Burying Ground. Memoranda: To whom these may concern. Be it remembered, that they whose names are hereunder written have subscribed and paid for the making of a stone wall about the Grave Yard burying ground at the upper end of Germantown and have a right therein at any time hereafter. The work was begun in May in the year of our Lord 1724 and was begun by Dirk Johnson and John Frederick Ax, who begun and with the assistance of the underwritten got it finished, to wit: Anthony Klincken, Henry Sellen, Garret Rittinghouse, William Dewees, JACOB SHIMER, David Potts, John Potts, and others."

After carefully inspecting the book, the writer was invited to go with Mr. Prichett to the old burying ground which is just a few squares above his home on Germantown Avenue. The old Concord school house, built in 1775, stands beside the burying ground, a quaint old place, still well preserved and kept in good order. All styles of "headstones" can be seen there. Quite a number have just ordinary field stones to mark the last resting places of the dead. In the old book above referred to there is a record which reads as follows: "Buried, that Catholic man's wife living on Chestnut Hill," but there is no stone to mark the place unless it is one of the old field stones. No name is mentioned in reference to who the man was, or who his wife was. As there is no record of where Jacob Shimer's first wife is buried, the writer would not be surprised to learn some day that she was buried there, because Jacob Shimer had the right of burial there.

The land for "The Upper Burial Ground," sometimes called Ax's burial ground, because Frederick Ax was the first and for many years the sexton of the place, was presented to the borough of Germantown in 1693 by Paul Wolf. It contains one-half acre of ground.

Here are buried many of the early settlers and their descendants. Here are the graves of Major Irwin, Captain Turner, Adjutant Lucas and six other American soldiers killed in the battle of Germantown.

Among the subscribers to the building of the wall around this burial ground was David Potts. On page 11, line 7, of Volume I, we read that Jacob Scheimer bought his 110-acre farm from David Potts. Would it not be possible and even

probable that Potts sold the land to Shimer while they were both residents of Philadelphia County and that Shimer with his family traveled up along the Perkiomen trail, the old "King's Highway," running from Philadelphia to Macungie, as he was living at Skippack at the time, then over to and on down the Lehigh River to the place which he had bought?

We note, also, the name of Dirk Johnson, as one, who with Jacob Shimer and others, helped to build that wall. In 1733 Johnson bought of the Penns 350 acres of land situated on a branch of the Perkiomen Creek, in Bucks County, now Lehigh County, Pa. In 1792 John Shimer, grandson of Jacob Shimer, became the possessor of 178 acres of this plot. From that time to this, the place has been known as Shimerville and the farm is in the possession of Llewellyn S. Shimer, grandson of John Shimer.

## NOTES.

All who have Volume I can make the following notations:

*Page 27:* Samuel Shimer was married May 12th, 1761, at Christ Church, Philadelphia, Pa., to Elizabeth Johnson. This record was found in the Pennsylvania Archives, 2d Series, Vol. VIII.

*Page 54:* Frederick Shimer was married to Mary Magdelane Bach at the old Trappe Church, Trappe, Pa. (This was the first Lutheran Church built in America. It was built by the Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg in 1752.) The record is found in the old "Trappe Book" at the church.

*Page 55:* Lucy E. Shimer, daughter of Henry P. Shimer, married, December 26th, 1913, Isaac A. Hain.

*Page 61:* Add the name of Miles H. Shimer to the children of Commodore Roger Shimer. Miles H. Shimer married Mary O. Greenwood; issue, one son, Albert.

*Page 61:* Anna C. Shimer married James Harding; issue, three sons, Harry, Floyd and William.

*Page 61:* Cora Shimer, daughter of George Shimer, married Allen R. Shay, Esq.

*Page 69:* Stanley C. Shimer, son of S. Mortimer Shimer, married, 1912, Elizabeth Henderson.

*Page 69:* Florence A. Shimer, daughter of Thomas S. Shimer, married George H. Hale; her sister, Lillie F. Shimer, married George L. Sands.

*Page 69:* Minnie W. John, wife of Thomas Shimer, should be Minnie W. St. John, wife of Thomas H. Shimer.

*Page 73:* Robert B. Shimer, son of Peter Shimer, married Charlotte Christie; issue, Delno R., Harry C., Carrie C., and Robert D. Harry C. Shimer married Bertha B. Ellsworth. Carrie C. Shimer married Cuyler Sanborn; issue, Richard, Cuyler, Jr., and Rita. Robert D. Shimer married Annie Patterson.

*Page 73:* Emma S. Shimer, daughter of John M. Shimer, married C. J. Weidknecht, M. D.

*Page 73:* "Lizzie" Shimer, daughter of John M. R. Shimer, should be Elizabeth R. Shimer; married Rev. W. J. Hutchinson.

*Page 83:* To the children of Samuel S. Weaver should be added the name of Mary Weaver, who married Samuel J. Weaver, M. D.

*Page 93:* Add the name of L. Shimer Serfass, son of Evangeline Shimer and A. Lincoln Serfass.

*Page 93:* Nathan G. Shimer, Jr., son of Nathan G. Shimer, married Grace E. Wilson.



*Page 93:* Dr. Sterling D. Shimer married, April 16th, 1914, Mrs. Bertha L. Leiby (nee Bertha L. Mutchler).

*Page 93:* In the 7th Generation, add the name of Blanche Natalie Shimer, daughter of Nathan G. and Grace Shimer.

*Page 95:* Grace B. Clark, daughter of Polly (Shimer) Clark, married, February 6th, 1907, August F. Raduns; issue, Hazel M. and Roger C.

*Page 95:* Pearl M. Clark, daughter of Polly (Shimer) Clark, married, September 7th, 1910, Howard H. Disinger; issue, Edith M.

*Page 95:* Irene E. Shimer, daughter of David Shimer, married, June 22nd, 1910, Dr. Frank C. Weaver.

*Page 95:* Roy C. Shimer, son of Jacob Shimer, married, May 30th, 1896, Ida L. Green; issue, Neil and Irene Shimer.

*Page 95:* Mabel Shimer, daughter of Jacob Shimer, married, June 6th, 1906, Ray E. Stockwell; issue, one son, Ralph S.

*Page 97:* "Carrie," daughter of Dr. Jacob S. Shimer, should be Caroline Shimer. "Mamie" should be Mary Elizabeth Shimer. Mary Elizabeth Shimer married Frank Price Homer; issue, one son, Robert S. P. Homer.

*Page 97:* Children of Howard E. Shimer—Charles L. and Samuel M.

*Page 97:* Bessie A. Shimer, daughter of Edgar C. Shimer, married, March 5th, 1912, Raymond R. Bear.

*Page 97:* Frances K. Shimer, daughter of Edgar C. Shimer, married, September 28th, 1913, Noble S. Rhoda.

*Page 97:* Lizzie Shimer, daughter of C. Oliver Shimer, married A. W. Haynes, of New York City and Panama, in 1912.

*Page 99:* Grace Mechling, daughter of Benjamin F. Mechling, married Julius Oelberman; B. Franklin Mechling married Ethel Love.

*Page 99:* Children of Walter A. S. Shimer—one son, Walter A., Jr.

*Page 99:* Children of E. Mabel (Shimer) Knittle—one son, Walter A., Jr.

*Page 99:* J. Myron Shimer, son of Allen S. Shimer, married, May 30th, 1914, Helen L. Bixby.

*Page 103:* Jacob O. Boyer, son of Elizabeth (Apple) Boyer, married Ida H. Stever; Harry E. Boyer, son of Jacob O. Boyer, married, 1908, Luella Mae Myers.

*Page 105:* Robert H. Shimer, son of Irwin Shimer, married, 1912, Estella T. Hafner.

*Page 105:* Jennie Boyer, daughter of Alabama (Shimer) Boyer, married Paul M. Meecray, M. D., not "McCrea."

*Page 105:* Robert Wood Thompson, born March 4th, 1912, son of Marion E. (Shimer) Thompson—8th Generation.

*Page 105:* Douglas Shimer Sterner, born December 21st, 1910; Richard Wallace Sterner, born May 5th, 1913—sons of Edna E. (Shimer) Sterner—8th Generation.

*Page 105:* Beryl Gwendolin Shimer, born September 14th, 1909; died October 13th, 1910; Acton Jerome Shimer, born August 21st, 1911—children of Stanley D. Shimer—8th Generation.

*Page 105:* Mary Elizabeth Laudenberger, born April 24th, 1912, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Laudenberger—8th Generation.

*Page 105:* Evelyn Laudenberger, daughter of Ida R. (Shimer) Laudenberger, married, January 12th, 1909, Frank H. Villie.

*Page 107:* Add to the children of Gilvin T. Roth, the name of Thomas.

*Page 107:* Bessie U. Shimer, daughter of Jacob T. Shimer, married, 1909, Arthur W. Hill; issue, one daughter, Virginia Louise, and one son, Arthur W., Jr.

*Page 109:* Florence Shimer, daughter of Joseph R. Shimer, married W. W. Bryan; Helen Shimer married John E. Carpenter.

*Page 109:* Frank C. Shimer, son of Joseph D. Shimer, married, June 3rd, 1913, Bessie Hamilton Spragle.

*Page 111:* Dr. Floyd A. Shimer, son of Benjamin F. Shimer, married Elsie May O'Brien.

*Page 111:* Katherine Shimer, daughter of Porter W. Shimer, married J. Willard Paff; issue, a son, William Alfred Paff.

*Page 111:* Margaret Shimer, daughter of Porter W. Shimer, married, May 18th, 1914, Paul Hoffman.

*Page 117:* Add the name of Mary E. (Maidie) Butz to the children of Edward M. Butz.

*Page 121:* Charles A. Shimer, son of George J. Shimer, married Grace Ferris.

*Page 121:* William S. Heinen, son of Mary (Shimer) Heinen, married Alice Marie Norris, 1912.

*Page 121:* Add to the children of Stewart A. Shimer, the name of Stewart A., Jr.

*Page 131:* Sarah Shimer—5th Generation—is a misprint; it should be Sarah Lutz, who married Thomas Riegel.

*Page 135:* The name of the second wife of Dr. Martin Yost was Mrs. Julia Heiman, not "Heinnon."

*Page 139:* Annie M. Shimer, married George Van Billiard; issue, a daughter, Hazel M.

*Page 141:* Chester Shimer married Mary Mutchler; issue, a daughter, Irene M.

*Page 141:* Add the name of Arleyne Mutchler and Harold L. Mutchler to the children of Laura (Shimer) Mutchler.

*Page 141:* Annie Bachman married Herbert E. Kichline; issue, a daughter, Mildred B.

*Page 141:* Add to the children of Arthur J. Shimer, the name of Orvetta A.

*Page 141:* Raymond C. Shimer married Anna M. Searles, January 3rd, 1914.

## DIED.

Cecillia Shimer, Freemansburg, Pa. Age, 68 years. (Vol. I, page 127.) Died, November 24th, 1904. Buried, Trinity Cemetery.

Alexander S. Shimer, Allentown, Pa. Age, 66 years. (Vol. I, page 97.) Died, October 5th, 1906. Buried, Fairview Cemetery.

Hiram S. Shimer, Allentown, Pa. Age, 69 years. (Vol. I, page 97.) Died, February 15th, 1907. Buried, Fairview Cemetery.

Benjamin F. Boyer, Camden, N. J. Age, 72 years. (Vol. I, page 105.) Died, January 3rd, 1908.

Lennie (Applegate) Shimer, Bethlehem, Pa. Age, 60 years. (Vol. I, page 121.) Died, October 1st, 1908. Buried, Nisky Hill.

Dr. Ira A. Shimer, Major U. S. Army, Philippine Islands. Age, 39 years. (Vol. I, page 93.) Died, March 13th, 1909. Buried, National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

Jacob T. Shimer, Bethlehem, Pa. Age, 75 years. (Vol. I, page 107.) Died, May 25th, 1909. Buried, Nisky Hill.

Louisa (Weaver) Shimer, Bethlehem, Pa. Age, 57 years. (Vol. I, page 107.) Died, August 16th, 1909. Buried, Nisky Hill.

C. Oliver Shimer, Macungie, Pa. Age, 56 years. (Vol. I, page 97.) Died, March 9th, 1910.

Bertha (Heinline) Shimer, Redington, Pa. Age, 37 years. (Vol. I, page 127.) Died, March 23rd, 1910. Buried, Lower Saucon Church Cemetery.

Annie (Geary) Butz, Easton, Pa. Age, 64 years. (Vol. I, page 117.) Died, October 19th, 1911. Buried, Easton Cemetery.

Peter A. Shimer, Easton, Pa. Age, 79 years. (Vol. I, page 111.) Died, June 2nd, 1912. Buried, Easton Cemetery.

Carrie E. Shimer, Allentown, Pa. Age, 52 years. (Vol. I, page 107.) Died, June 17th, 1912. Buried, Allentown Cemetery.

Pius B. Weaver, Bethlehem, Pa. Age, 62 years. (Vol. I, page 83.) Died, July 14th, 1912. Buried, Union Cemetery.

Gideon F. Egner, Allentown, Pa. Age, 60 years. (Vol. I, page 97.) Died, August 28th, 1912. Buried, West End Cemetery.

Anna (Callahan) Shimer, Easton, Pa. Age, 43 years. (Vol. I, page 93.) Died, October 17th, 1912. Buried, Easton Cemetery.

Nora (Lichtenwalner) Shimer, Allentown, Pa. Age, 49 years. (Vol. I, page 97.) Died, October 18th, 1912. Buried, Fairview Cemetery.

Samuel Mortimer Shimer, Middleton, N. Y. Age, 56 years. (Vol. I, page 69.) Died, November 6th, 1912. Buried, Hillside Cemetery.

Clara (Boyer) Shimer, Easton, Pa. Age, 69 years. (Vol. I, page 93.) Died, January 18th, 1913. Buried, Farmersville Church.

William H. Shimer, M. D., Texas. Age, 51 years. (Vol. I, page 107.) Died, March 6th, 1913.

Alice M. (Shimer) Christman, Allentown, Pa. Age, 56 years. (Vol. I, page 97.) Died, March 8th, 1913. Buried, Union Cemetery.

Asher D. Shimer, Bethlehem, Pa. Age, 82 years. (Vol. I, page 89.) Died, April 10th, 1913. Buried, Nisky Hill.

Ellen (Werkleiser) Shimer, Easton, Pa. Age, 79 years. (Vol. I, page 111.) Died, August 14th, 1913. Buried, Easton Cemetery.

Robert Yeager, Allentown, Pa. Age, 80 years. (Vol. I, page 101.) Died, March 3rd, 1914. Buried, Fairview Cemetery.

Charlotte (Christie) Shimer, South Orange, N. J., widow of Robert B. Shimer. Age, 68 years. (Vol. I, page 73.) Died, July 5th, 1914.

# SAMUEL SHIMER

SAMUEL SHIMER, the third son of Jacob and Elizabeth Scheimer, was born about 1738. He married Elizabeth Johnson, May 12th, 1761, at Christ Church, Philadelphia, Pa. He moved West and settled in Ohio.



		2ND GENERATION	3RD GENERATION	4TH GENERATION
DESCENDANTS OF JACOB SHIMER AND ELIZABETH (?) (2ND WIFE) (1679-1759)	1ST GEN.	(1731-1764) JACOB SHIMER Lower Saucon church yard ROSINA SEIP (1739-1822)  CONRAD SHIMER	(1760-1828) Peter Shimer (1762-1827) Samuel Shimer (1764-1811) John Shimer  (Died young, no issue) (1765-1815) Isaac Shimer Sarah Ann Delashmut (1773-1856)  ( -1823) Jesse Shimer Elizabeth Thompson (1775-1859) It is said that Jesse Shimer died on what was known as the Wild Cat prairies of Indiana, after a sud- den illness of three days, and was buried there.	Complete record in Vol I  Page 26, Vol. I Jesse Shimer (No issue) (1798-1864) Elias Nelson Shimer Mahala Dunn (1802-1886) Samuel Shimer Nancy Beer Martha Shimer (Died young) Permilfa Shimer Thomas Storer Isaac Shimer (1797-1853) Margaret Finch Catherine Shimer James Russell Harry Shimer (1803-1871) Malinda Finch John Shimer (Died young) Nancy Shimer (1807-1877) Allen Makepeace Jane Shimer Samuel Suman Edward Shimer (1811-48) Eleanora Diltz Jacob Shimer Matilda Godwin Jesse Shimer (Died young) Elizabeth Shimer Louis Sawyer
		(1738- ) SAMUEL SHIMER ELIZABETH JOHNSON	Polly Shimer Mr. Gabriel	(No record)
		(1741-1815) EDWARD SHIMER MRS. JACOB SHIMER (Rosina Seip) Private burying plot, Shi- mer's Farm, Redington, Pa.	(1767-1845) Edward Shimer Isaac Shimer (1769-1838) (1776-1863) Susanna Shimer	Complete record in Vol. I.
		PETER SHIMER (Died young, no issue)		
		(1749-1838) ISAAC SHIMER Williams Township church yard MISS GETTART (1st) ELIZABETH KICHLEIN (2d)	Jacob Shimer Elizabeth Shimer Nancy Shimer Polly (Mary) Shimer Susanna Shimer Sarah Shimer	Complete record in Vol. I.
		JOHN SHIMER (Died young, no issue)		





DESCENDANTS OF ELIAS NELSON SHIMER AND MAHALA DUNN (1802-1886) (1798-1864)		4TH GEN.	5TH GENERATION	6TH GENERATION	7TH GENERATION
		(1823- ) CALEB D. SHIMER		Mallie Shimer Amos Gerond	
				Jennie Shimer Emma Shimer Kate Shimer	
				(1851- ) Mahalia Shimer Mr. Adams	
		(1825- ) WILLIAM R. SHIMER LIZZIE O'NEAL (1832-1897)		(1854- ) Isaac Shimer Jennie Hart (1857- )	Dr. William Shimer Margaret Shimer Myrtle Shimer John Shimer
				(1860- ) Nelson Shimer (1866- ) Richard Shimer (1874- ) Charles Shimer (1869- ) Thomas Shimer	
		(1829- ) ISAAC H. SHIMER		Thomas Shimer Howard Shimer Flora Shimer Jennie Shimer Elias Shimer Ollie Shimer Etta Shimer Ray Shimer Mabel Shimer Myrtle Shimer Grace Shimer Irie Shimer	
		(1832-1897) ASA J. N. SHIMER (1835-1837) JAMES N. H. SHIMER			
		(1838- ) CORYDON R. SHIMER BELLA ZIMMERMAN (1st wife) MEHETABEL EDWARDS (2nd wife)		(1873- ) J. Tilden Shimer (1884- ) Donald B. Shimer (1909-1910) Mary M. C. Shimer	



DESCENDANTS OF SAMUEL SHIMER AND NANCY BEER (1796-1889)		5TH GENERATION	6TH GENERATION	7TH GENERATION	
4TH GEN.	(1818-1901)	ISAAC SHIMER	Four daughters with first wife One son with second wife died in infancy		
		ELIZABETH THORP (1st wife)	Ten children with third wife. Record of four Samuel Shimer		
		LEAH PITTENGER (2nd wife)	Mary Bols		
		MARY DOBSON (3rd wife)	William Shimer Ella Wilson Esther Shimer John Arthur Samantha Shimer Charles Bare		
		JACOB SHIMER (1819-44)	(No issue)		
		(1822-1899)	ELIZABETH SHIMER	William Wood Samuel Wood James Wood Newton Wood Francis Wood Harvey Wood Nancy Wood Marietta Wood Tobitha Wood Idela Wood Elizabeth Wood	
		EDWARD WOOD			
		(1825-1913)	SARAH SHIMER	Judson Knapp	
		JOHN KNAPP (Both mutes)	Jesse Knapp		
		(1827-1912)	JESSE SHIMER	Henry Shimer	
		ELIZA WINSET	John Shimer Ellen Clark	Dr. Frank Shimer	
		(1829-1909)	CLINTON SHIMER (mute)		
		ELIZABETH FULER			
		(1832- )	NANCY SHIMER	Amanda Ketterman	
		GEORGE KETTERMAN			
	(1855- )	John Q. Shimer Elizabeth Hook	Charles Shimer George Shimer Grace MacCartney		
	(1858- )	Syrus A. Shimer	(No issue)		
	(1860- )	Arrelious D. Shimer	Bert Shimer		
	(1834 )	REV. ALLEN M. SHIMER	Minnie Leveridge		
	SARAH DOTSON (1st wife)		Deloris B. Shimer Charles Toby		
	SUSAN HARKER (2nd wife)	(1863 ) Cassius C. Shimer Mabel V. Allen	Paul A. Shimer Dortha V. Shimer Cassius C. Shimer Eleanor E. Shimer		
		Ella May Shimer Charles Norton	Roseoe Norton		
		Byron C. Shimer			
		Minnie Shimer William MacGregor	Carroll G. MacGregor Gerald G. MacGregor		







DESCENDANTS OF  
 ISAAC SHIMER AND MARGARET FINCH  
 (1797-1853)

4TH GEN.	5TH GENERATION	6TH GENERATION	7TH GENERATION
	MARION SHIMER		
	NEWTON SHIMER		
	JOHN SHIMER		
	JANE SHIMER		
	SAMUEL SHIMER		





4TH GEN.	5TH GENERATION	6TH GENERATION	7TH GENERATION
	NANCY RUSSELL MARTIN DILTZ	James Diltz (Died young)	Oscar Diltz Delia Makepeace
Will Diltz Hannah Ferguson		Stella Diltz Perry Diltz Winfred Diltz Bradley Diltz	
Kate Diltz Butler Brandenburg		Horace Brandenburg Esty Brandenburg	
Ella Diltz Nathan Heath		Majory Heath Courtney Heath Dorothy Heath	
Thomas Diltz (Died young)			
Charles Diltz Kate Laven		Hazel Diltz Whitlaw Diltz Donald Diltz	
Stephen Diltz (Died young) Clara Emiline Diltz (Died young) John Diltz (Died young) Dolly Diltz (Died young) Russel Diltz (Died young)			
Robert Diltz Maud Thomas		Jesse Diltz	
Emma Diltz Samuel Davis		Martin Davis Jesse Davis Edith Davis Viola Davis	
Alice Diltz Evert Cartright		Edgar Cartright Genevieve Cartright	

DESCENDANTS OF  
CATHERINE SHIMER AND JAMES RUSSELL



4TH GEN.	5TH GENERATION	6TH GENERATION	7TH GENERATION
	JOSIAH SHIMER		
JESSE SHIMER			
JOHN SHIMER			
CLARK SHIMER			
ELIZABETH SHIMER			
MARGARET SHIMER			
HANNAH SHIMER			
CYRUS SHIMER			
ISAAC SHIMER			

DESCENDANTS OF  
 HARRY SHIMER AND MALINDA FINCH  
 (1803-1871)



4TH GEN.	5TH GENERATION	6TH GENERATION	7TH GENERATION
DESCENDANTS OF NANCY SHIMER AND ALLEN MAKEPEACE (1807-1877)	(1848-1912) ALVIRA J. MAKEPEACE JOHN E. CORWIN (1838-1913)	Ella G. Corwin Allen W. Corwin Gertrude Brodhead Pauline A. Corwin John A. Hartford Louise Corwin Francis G. McKelvy	Louise M. McKelvy
	ALLEN QUINCY MAKE- PEACE LUZY R. ROZULE (1st wife) MARY McDONALD (2nd wife)	Edna L. G. Makepeace Alvira A. M. J. Make- peace Ruth A. Makepeace Nelle N. Makepeace Mary E. Makepeace	



4TH GEN.	5TH GENERATION	6TH GENERATION	7TH GENERATION
	JACOB SUMAN		
JOHN SUMAN			
SAMANTHA SUMAN			

DESCENDANTS OF  
JANE SHIMER AND SAMUEL SUMAN





DESCENDANTS OF  
 EDWARD SHIMER AND ELEANOR DILTZ  
 (1811-1849)

4TH GEN.

5TH GENERATION

6TH GENERATION

7TH GENERATION

(1836- )  
 MALISSA SHIMER  
 BENJAMIN CLARK  
 (1829-1908)

Charles L. Clark  
 Alice Duncan

Edna Clark  
 Karl Klitten

Lena Eleanor Clark  
 J. A. Eusey

Helen Eusey  
 Edward Klee

Dorothy Eusey

Marie Clark  
 Charles G. Bell

George W. Clark  
 Elizabeth J. Hanlin

Edith Clark  
 Adah Clark

Dora Clark  
 Thomas F. Murray

Alvira J. Clark

(1838-1875)  
 WILLIAM SHIMER  
 ELIZABETH SHAFER

Eleanor Shimer  
 Frank P. Adams

Ferrell Adams  
 Donald Adams



DESCENDANTS OF  
JACOB SHIMER AND MATILDA GODWIN

4TH GEN.	5TH GENERATION	6TH GENERATION	7TH GENERATION
	<p>AMANDA SHIMER HARVEY KOONTZ</p>	<p>Charles Koontz</p>	
<p>RICHARD SHIMER</p>			
<p>ALMIRA SHIMER</p>			
<p>INDIANA SHIMER</p>			
<p>DELIA SHIMER</p>			
<p>EMMA SHIMER</p>			



DESCENDANTS OF  
ELIZABETH SHIMER AND LOUIS SAWYER

4TH GEN.

(No record)



# MICHAEL SHIMER

MICHAEL SHIMER, who with Frederick and Daniel came to America in 1749, married a daughter of Adam Esch (Ash), of Coventry Township, Chester County, Pa. He settled on a tract of 270 acres of land on the Schuylkill River in Vincent Township, Chester County, Pa., where Spring City, Pa., now stands. He had one son and three daughters.

(Shimer History, Vol. I, page 54.)





DESCENDANTS OF  
MICHAEL SHIMER AND MISS ASH

(Emigrated 1749)

Rhodes Mennonite Burying Grounds, near Spring City, Pa.

1st GEN.

2ND GENERATION

3RD GENERATION

	(1785-1846) Peter Shimer Sarah Kelly (1st) (1794-1820) Mrs. Elizabeth Hartman (2nd) (1816-1842)
	Henry Shimer (No issue)
(1762-1836) ADAM SHIMER ELIZABETH DEFRAIN Old Hill Reformed church yard, East Vincent Township, Chester Co., Pa.	Elizabeth Shimer John Heffelfinger  John Shimer Susanna Clemens
	(1794-1857) Edward Shimer Hannah Jones
	Catharine Shimer Samuel Lloyd (1st) John Francis (2nd)
	(1800-1867) William Shimer Catharine Still (1806-1901)
SARAH SHIMER JACOB KEELEV	(No record)
HANNAH SHIMER HENRY HIPPLE	(No record)
A daughter married Mr. Sypherd	(No record)

(Page 54, Vol. I)



		4TH GENERATION	5TH GENERATION
			(1814-1843) JOHN SHIMER HANNAH HARTMAN (1813-1843) Old Cemetery, East Vincent, Chester Co., Pa.
SARAH KELLY (1ST WIFE) (1794-1825) East Vincent, Chester Co., Pa.	3RD GEN.	(1818-1850) EDWARD SHIMER SARAH MARSH Old Cemetery, East Vincent, Chester Co., Pa.	One son
		(1816-1817) ELIZABETH SHIMER JESSE YOST Old Cemetery, East Vincent, Chester Co., Pa.	(No issue)
DESCENDANTS OF PETER SHIMER (1785-1846) Old Hill Reformed Church Yard East Vincent, Chester Co., Pa.	PETER SHIMER	(1826- ) WILLIAM SHIMER (Bachelor) Pikeland Cemetery, Chester Co., Pa.	
		(1828-1908) SARAH A. SHIMER LEVI MILLER Mt. Moriah Cemetery, Philadelphia, Pa.	Mary J. Miller (1817-1866) Sarah A. Miller (1819-1851) Henretta J. Miller (1851-1853) Emma C. Miller (1858-1860) Maria Ruberta Miller Francis H. Miller Ellie Simpson George S. Miller Ida L. Metz Essie M. Miller Charles L. Viguers George W. Stine Mary Gunkle John H. Stine (1855-1901) M. Emma Super Eliza J. M. Stine (1856-1909) David Y. Peck Mary E. Stine William L. Snyder Addis M. A. Stine Agnes Crager Jones L. Stine Lillian Rennard Peter K. Stine (1866-1904) Ida M. Richards Oliver S. Stine
ELIZABETH HARTMAN (2ND WIFE) ( -1842) Lower Pikeland Cemetery Chester Co., Pa.	ELIZABETH HARTMAN	(1830- ) EMILY SHIMER CHRISTIAN STINE (1822-1888) Cemetery, West Chester, Pa.	
		(1832-1893) PETER SHIMER, JR. (Bachelor) Pikeland Cemetery, Chester Co., Pa.	Laura Emery (1870-1907) Wayne Emery
ELIZABETH HARTMAN (2ND WIFE) ( -1842) Lower Pikeland Cemetery Chester Co., Pa.	ELIZABETH HARTMAN	(1835-1893) BARBARA SHIMER DAVID EMERY Pikeland Cemetery, Chester Co., Pa.	Ida Emery John Snyder Sallie Emery Jacob Reese Penrose Emery
		(1837- ) ANDREW JACKSON SHIMER (Bachelor) Killed in battle	



DESCENDANTS OF  
ELIZABETH SHIMER AND JOHN HEFFELFINGER

3RD GEN.

4TH GENERATION

5TH GENERATION

LEWIS HEFFELFINGER

(No record)

JACOB HEFFELFINGER  
SOPHIA BOLMAR

(No record)



		4TH GENERATION	5TH GENERATION	6TH GENERATION
DESCENDANTS OF JOHN SHIMER AND SUSANNA CLEMENS (1792-1844) St. Matthew's Reformed Cemetery, West Vincent Township, Chester Co., Pa.	3RD GEN.	(1819-1850) ELIZABETH SHIMER GAMALIEL BAUM (1819-1845) St. Matthew's Reformed Cemetery, West Vincent Township, Chester Co., Pa.	John R. Baum Margaret Stittler Jacob Baum Annie Baum Sarah E. Baum (1845 ) Geo. B. Downing (1817-1897) St. Matthew's Lutheran Cemetery, Upper Uwehland Township, Chester Co., Pa.	(Died in infancy)  (1876-1897) Clara May Downing St. Matthew's, Upper Uwehland
		ISAAC SHIMER (1822-1840)	(No issue)	
		(1825-1910) JOHN SHIMER ELIZABETH AULT (1st wife) ( -1873) MRS. MARGARET MOELLER (2nd wife)	Ida Shimer John W. Morrison  Edwin A. Shimer (1866- ) Benjamin H. Shimer Sennie Townsend (1868- ) (1867- ) John Wesley Shimer Anna Stein (1871- ) (1869- ) Granville Clemens Shimer Susan Richmond (1871- ) Clara (Caddie) Shimer George W. Brown (1858- )	Ruby M. Morrison (1881-85) (1883-1885) Bertha L. Morrison Herbert G. Morrison Ha L. Wilson Walter C. Morrison Mac Reynolds Clara A. Morrison  Fern E. Shimer Oma L. Shimer Clara T. Shimer Lyle Shimer Esther Shimer Mark Shimer Alice O. Shimer  Frances Shimer  Vivian Brown
		(1827-1909) ANN SHIMER JOHN W. CAMPBELL (1827-1907) Evergreen Cemetery, Camden, N. J.	Kate R. Campbell (1865- ) Theodore M. Birchmier (1869- ) Luella W. Campbell William H. Lamar (1869 ) (1852-1874) Anna M. Campbell Thomas J. Wood (1859-1881) Hattie P. Campbell Charles N. Pelonze	Nelson E. Lamar Raymond H. Lamar
		MARY SHIMER (1827- ) MR. IRVIN CLEMENS SHIMER (1830- ) (1831-1858) SUSANNA C. SHIMER  (1836-1863) CATHARINE R. SHIMER	Edward F. Irvin (Died in infancy) St. Matthew's Luth. Cemetery St. Matthew's Luth. Cemetery, Upper Uwehland Township, Chester Co., Pa.	(No issue)  (No issue)
		(1838- ) WILLIAM C. SHIMER ZENITH MOHLER	Zella Shimer Mr. Egle	





DESCENDANTS OF  
 EDWARD SHIMER AND HANNAH JONES  
 (1791-1857) (1803-1877)  
 Birmingham Lafayette Cemetery

3RD GEN.

4TH GENERATION

5TH GENERATION

(1824-1909)  
 ELIZABETH H. SHIMER  
 FRANKLIN DARLINGTON  
 (1822-1893)  
 Birmingham Cemetery

Edward S. Darlington  
 Mary J. Dulin

Walter Darlington  
 Mary R. Rice

Casper Darlington  
 L. Virginia Glisson

Ella H. Darlington  
 Frank Morrison  
 (1860-1911)

Percy Darlington  
 Carrie Hoopes

(1826-1904)  
 WILLIAM SHIMER  
 MARY J. FAUCETT (1st)  
 (1840-1907)  
 MARY J. SUMMONS (2nd)

(1858-1888)  
 Hannah M. Shimer  
 William F. Davis

Edward J. Shimer  
 Asenath R. Baker

Annie L. Shimer  
 Howard E. Seal

Dr. Edward S. Sharpless  
 Mary Keachline

(1828-1855)  
 ALICE SHIMER  
 Goshen Friends, Goshen-  
 ville, Chester Co.

Ella Sharpless (1851-76)  
 William Smedley (1842-75)

(1827- )  
 WILLIAM T. SHARPLESS  
 (1834-1877)  
 SARAH SHIMER (2nd)  
 Goshen Friends, Goshen-  
 ville, Chester Co.

(1859-1910)  
 Smith Sharpless  
 Linda Singles

Ellsworth Sharpless  
 Lena Hawley

Alice Sharpless (1867- )  
 Eugene Bassett

(1830-1909)  
 PHOEBE SHIMER  
 ISAAC S. COCHRAN  
 (1826-1900)  
 Oakland Cemetery, West  
 Chester, Pa.

Sarah J. Sharpless  
 James A. Biddison

(1851-1901)  
 Laura Cochran  
 Richard H. Johnson

W. Harry Cochran  
 Clara Smith

(1832- )  
 MARY SHIMER  
 ENOS L. BAKER  
 (1826-1910)  
 Cumberland Cemetery,  
 Delaware Co., Pa.

A. Howard Baker  
 Hannah S. Baker  
 Alice S. Baker  
 George E. Baker

Elizabeth D. Baker  
 Milton S. Garret

ANNIE SHIMER  
 JESSE J. HICKMAN

Edward S. Hickman  
 Belle Larkin

AMY D. SHIMER  
 DAVIS B. COCHRAN

Herbert Cochran  
 Elsie Peters  
 Arthur Cochran



DESCENDANTS OF  
CATHERINE SHIMER  
ANDJOHN FRANCIS  
(2nd Husband)SAMUEL LLOYD  
(1st Husband)

3RD GEN.

4TH GENERATION

5TH GENERATION

ELIZABETH LLOYD

(No record)

SAMUEL LLOYD

(No record)

JOHN LLOYD

(No record)

CATHARINE LLOYD

(No record)

ELLEN FRANCIS

(No record)

MARY FRANCIS

(No record)

SUSANNA FRANCIS

(No record)

HANNAH FRANCIS

(No record)



DESCENDANTS OF  
WILLIAM SHIMER AND CATHERINE STILL

3rd GEN  
(1801-1867)  
Buried at West Vincent Baptist burying grounds, Chester Co., Pa.  
Lived at Birehnmville, Chester Co., Pa.

4TH GENERATION	5TH GENERATION	6TH GENERATION
(1828-1895) DR. HENRY SHIMER FRANCES A. WOOD (1826-1901) Oak Hill Cemetery, Mt. Carrol, Ill.	(No issue)	
	(1851 ) John B. Mosteller Mary Carl (1869 )	Harvey R. Mosteller J. Abram Mosteller Sadie H. Mosteller Clara L. Mosteller
	(1853 ) Emma M. Mosteller Oliver Simmers (1855-1888) St. Matthew's, W. Vincent Twp.	
(1830-1909) HANNAH F. SHIMER ABRAM MOSTELLER (1821- )	(1851 ) Ella Mosteller John O. Griffith  (1857-1897) Clara Mosteller Joseph Cloud St. Matthew's Reformed, W. Vincent Twp., Ches- ter Co., Pa.  (1866-1870) Joseph L. Mosteller St. Matthew's Cemetery, W. Vincent Township  (1869- ) Abraham Mosteller Anna M. Frame	
	(1856-1862) Theodore Mosteller St. Matthew's Lutheran, Upper Uwchland, Ches- ter Co., Pa.	
(1832-1900) MARGARET A. SHIMER HENRY MOSTELLER (1830-1899) St. Matthew's Luth. Ceme- tery, Upper Uwchland, Chester Co., Pa.	(1859- ) H. Belle Mosteller Robert R. Lumis (1854- )	Oscar M. Lumis Margaret Y. Dewees  E. Edna Lumis
	(1861- ) L. Ellen Mosteller Sherwood Holman	Clarence Holman
	(1870 ) M. Emma Mosteller	
(1840-1902) CATHERINE E. SHIMER West Vincent Baptist Cemetery, Chester Co., Pa.		

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